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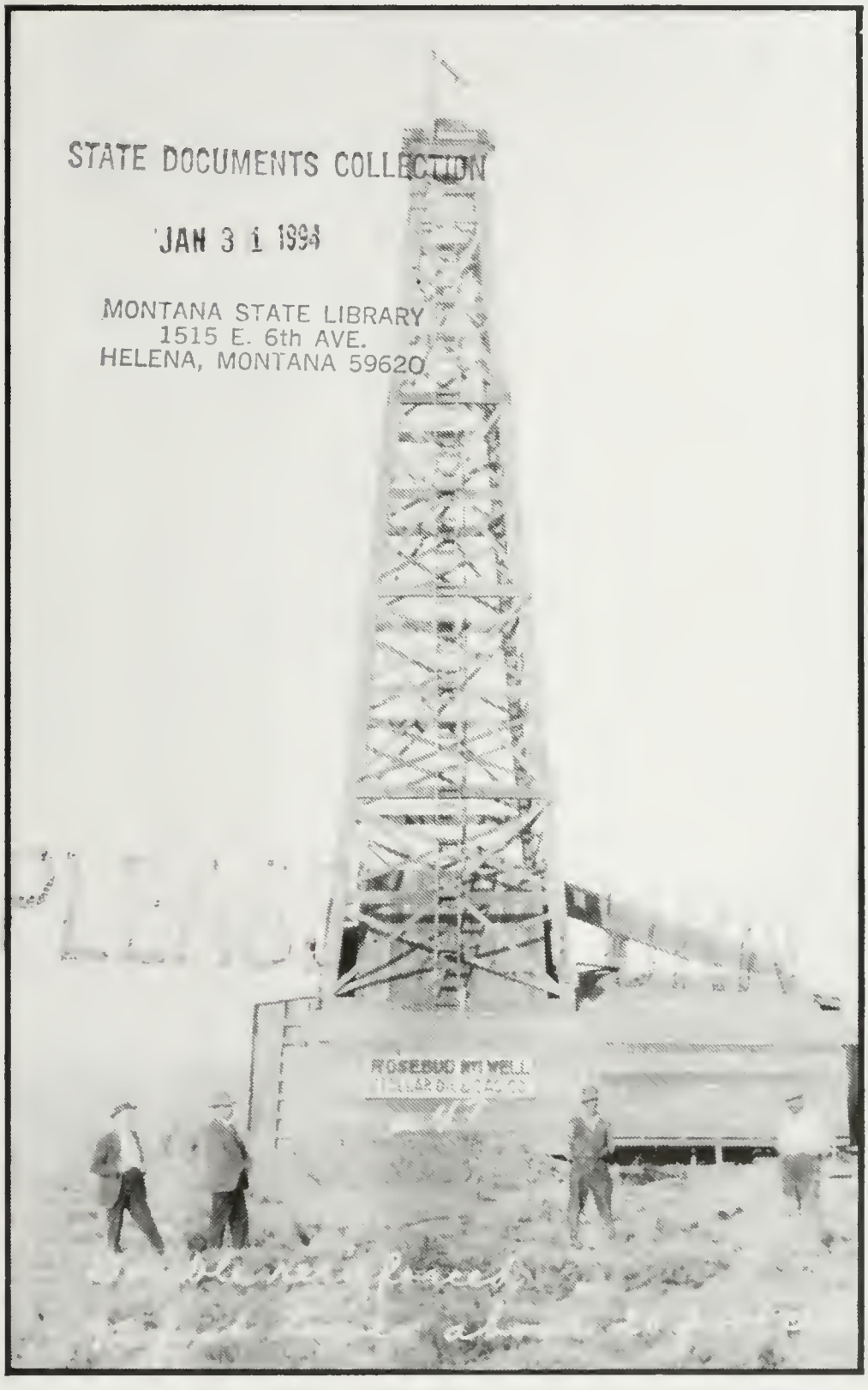
MONTANA INDEX OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS



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MONTANA INDEX OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS

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Keep in Mind . . . .

This document summarizes portions of Montana law that deal with the use and development of the state's natural resources. It is not, however, a legal document and should not be relied on exclusively to determine legal responsibilities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION xiv

LAND DESIGNATIONS 1
AIRPORT AREAS 1
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS 2
FLOODPLAINS AND FLOODWAYS 3
HERITAGE SITES 4
LAKESHORES 6
NATURAL AREAS 8
OPEN SPACE - CONSERVATION EASEMENTS 9
STATE LANDS 9
STREAM BEDS - STREAM BANKS - WETLANDS 11

AGRICULTURE 15
ANIMAL CONFINEMENT FACILITIES 15
CROPLAND LEASES ON STATE LANDS 15
FERTILIZER REGISTRATION 16
GRAZING 17
PESTICIDES 19

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION 23
ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS 23
BUILDING CODES AND RESTRICTIONS 25
PLANNING 26
ZONING 27

COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL - ENERGY 28
AIR QUALITY PERMITS: STATE 28
AIR QUALITY PERMITS: FEDERAL 32
GEOTHERMAL LEASES 32
GEOTHERMAL LEASES ON STATE LANDS 32
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES -- COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW 34
HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT 34
HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT ON STATE LANDS 35
HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT AT STATE-OWNED DAMS 36
INCINERATORS - COMMERCIAL MEDICAL WASTE 37
INCINERATORS - HAZARDOUS WASTE 38
INDOOR EMISSIONS - OCCUPATIONAL NOISE 38
ASBESTOS CONTROL 38
INDOOR EMISSIONS - OCCUPATIONAL NOISE 39

RADIATION CONTROL 40
RADON CONTROL 41
MAJOR FACILITY SITING 41
PIPELINES 45
WATER POLLUTION DISCHARGE PERMITS 45
WIND ENERGY 45

FOOD PROCESSING AND SERVICE 47
DAIRIES 47
SLAUGHTERHOUSES - MEATPACKING PLANTS 47

FORESTRY 49
BURNING PERMITS 49
CABIN SITES 50
HAZARD REDUCTION 50
PORTABLE SAWMILLS 51
REMOVAL OF NONCOMMERCIAL OR SMALL QUANTITY TIMBER 52
STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONES 53
TIMBER HARVESTS 53
TIMBER SALES 53

HIGHWAYS - TRANSPORTATION 56
FERRIES 56
HIGHWAY ADVERTISING 56
HIGHWAY APPROACH PERMITS 57
HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENTS - EASEMENTS 58
ROADSIDE JUNKYARDS 59

HUNTING - FISHING - TRAPPING - WILDLIFE PROTECTION 60
COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES 60
AERIAL HUNTING OF PREDATORY ANIMALS 60
CAPTIVE BREEDING OF RAPTORS 61
FUR DEALERS 62
FUR FARMS 63
GAME BIRD FARMS 64
GAME FARMS 65
OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES 66
ROADSIDE ZOOS - POSSESSION OF WILD ANIMALS 69
SEINING 70
SHOOTING PRESERVES 71
FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING LICENSES 72
FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS 73
WILDLIFE PROTECTION 75
GAME PRESERVES 75

IMPORTATION OF FISH, FISH EGGS AND WILDLIFE 75
MIGRATORY BIRDS 76
NONGAME AND ENDANGERED SPECIES 76
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES - FEDERAL 77
USE OF POISON BAIT ON DEPARTMENT LANDS 77
WILD BIRD PERMITS 78

MINING 79
COAL AND URANIUM MINING: MINE-SITE LOCATION PERMITS 79
COAL AND URANIUM MINING: OPERATIONS 80
URANIUM MINING - SOLUTION EXTRACTION 83
COAL AND URANIUM MINING: PROSPECTING PERMITS 85
HARDROCK MINING: EXPLORATION 87
HARDROCK MINING: MILLING/REPROCESSING 88
HARDROCK MINING: OPERATIONS 89
LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION 94
MINING RIGHT-OF-WAY 94
OPENCUT MINING 95
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: COAL MINING 97
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: METALLIFEROUS MINERALS AND GEMS 99
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: PROSPECTING 100
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: STONE, GRAVEL AND OTHER NON-METALLIFEROUS MINERALS 101
RECORDING OF MINING CLAIMS 102

MONTANA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT 104

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT 105

OIL AND GAS 109
GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION 109
OIL AND GAS 110
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION 112
OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: OIL AND GAS 112
OPERATIONS ON CITY, COUNTY OR SCHOOL DISTRICT LANDS 114
UNDERGROUND STORAGE OF NATURAL GAS ON STATE LANDS . . . 114

PARKS AND RECREATION 116
BOATS 116
CAMPGROUNDS - TRAILER COURTS - WORK CAMPS - YOUTH CAMPS 117
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES 119
SNOWMOBILES 120

STATE PARKS 122

SOLID WASTE - HAZARDOUS WASTE 123
HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL 123
INCINERATORS - HAZARDOUS WASTE/BOILERS AND INDUSTRIAL FURNACES 125
MOTOR VEHICLE WRECKING FACILITIES 127
RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL 129
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL (NON-HAZARDOUS) 129
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS 132
TANK OWNERS AND OPERATORS 133
TANK INSTALLERS AND INSPECTORS 136
ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS (see BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION)

SUBDIVISIONS 138
SALE OF SUBDIVIDED LAND 138
SANITATION IN SUBDIVISIONS 140
SUBDIVISION AND PLATTING ACT 142

UTILITIES 145
HIGHWAY UTILITY EASEMENTS 145
IMPROVEMENT AND UTILITY DISTRICTS 146
MAJOR FACILITY SITING 147
OVERHEAD LINES 147
PIPELINES - MAINS - UTILITY LINES 147
UTILITY REGULATION 148

WATER 150
DAMS AND RESERVOIRS 150
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY 152
SEPTIC TANKS, CESSPOOLS AND PRIVIES 153
SEWER SYSTEMS 154
WATER APPROPRIATIONS - GROUND WATER 155
WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS 156
WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS 160
WATER POLLUTION: FEDERAL - INDIAN RESERVATIONS 163
WATER WELLS 164

WEATHER MODIFICATION 166

APPENDIX 1: MONTANA STATE AGENCIES 169

APPENDIX 2: STATE AGENCY REGIONAL OFFICES 183

APPENDIX 3: LOCAL PERMITTING AUTHORITIES 188

APPENDIX 4: FEDERAL AGENCIES 199

INDEX 202

INTRODUCTION

Permit Index

The *Montana Index of Environmental Permits* (permit index) was prepared by the Environmental Quality Council to provide a comprehensive list of the permits and licenses needed to conduct activities that might affect Montana's environment. The permit index briefly describes most state environmental permits, lists the permitting agencies, and cites the statutes and rules that regulate each permit.

In most cases, the permit index will alert the reader to the need to obtain a permit or license, but more detailed information regarding specific application procedures, evaluation standards, operating requirements, enforcement and other legal considerations should always be obtained from the administering agency before proceeding with a project. Remember, the permit index is not a legal document; it should be used as a starting block, not a substitute for contacting agencies or carefully reading the statutes and rules.

The State and Federal Regulatory Structure

For users unfamiliar with the operation of Montana state government, a brief description of its organization and governance may be helpful. There are fourteen principal departments within the executive branch. These agencies administer programs established by statute (contained in the Montana Code Annotated), rule (contained in the Administrative Rules of Montana) and sometimes departmental guidelines. The agencies most commonly involved in the issuance or review of environmental permits include the Department of State Lands, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Highways, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and the Department of Public Service Regulation.

The legislature develops policy for the use and conservation of Montana's natural resources through the enactment of laws and the establishment of associated programs. The Environmental Quality Council, a legislative agency created in 1971 and composed of legislators, citizen members, and a representative of the Governor,

is charged with overseeing the implementation of environmental policies and anticipating and resolving environmental problems.

Montana administers several federal environmental programs under agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency. These include air and water quality, solid and hazardous waste, and asbestos and pesticide regulation. Montana has also been certified by the U.S. Department of the Interior to administer the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). Some federal programs are mentioned in the permit index, but the user should check with the appropriate state agency to determine if any associated federal permits are required for an activity.

Local governments such as town councils, county commissioners, or local health officials also administer permits. See Appendix 3 for a listing.

How to Use the Permit Index

The permit index is organized both by activity (e.g. mining, agriculture) and land designation (e.g. floodplain, conservation district). To best utilize the permit index, look up the proposed activity in the table of contents or the index and read the activity section on the page referenced. Then check the land designation section if the activity is proposed in a specially designated area. Note that the land designation section should be used primarily as a reference to complement information in the activity section. Finally, check the other permits referenced under the activity. For example, a person researching a proposed coal mine on state land would first locate the coal and uranium mining section in the index, then turn to the referenced page and read the information on the coal mine operating permit. Within the coal and uranium mining section, permits for water discharge, air quality, and waste management are all referenced. After reading the section on coal mining, check "state lands" in the land designation section. As illustrated in the example, the additional permits or licenses required are generally referenced under the activity; however, it is important to check with the agencies listed to be aware of any other required permits.

It is also important to note that if the activity will affect any species or species habitat protected under the state or federal Endangered Species Acts, special regulations apply (see Nongame and Endangered Species, p. 76). In addition, any project that may have an impact on the environment is subject to review under the provisions of the Montana Environmental Policy Act (p. 105).

Several appendices are included to increase the utility of the directory. Appendix 1 lists state permitting agencies and the activities they regulate. Appendix 2 lists state agency regional offices that may need to be contacted for specific information and permit applications. Appendix 3 lists local permitting authorities and the types of permits with which they are concerned. Appendix 4 lists federal agencies having regulatory responsibilities for activities undertaken in Montana.

General Information

The permit index is a starting point for finding information on environmental regulations for certain activities. It does not replace assistance from agency personnel who have the responsibility to help citizens comply with Montana's environmental laws. To avoid pitfalls, contact the permitting agencies as soon as possible and integrate environmental regulations into your planning process early.

For answers to general permit questions, call the Governor's Office (444-3111), the Environmental Quality Council (444-3742), the Department of Commerce (444-3494), or the Citizen's Advocate Office (444-3468, 1-800-332-2272).

DIRECTORY OF PERMITS

LAND DESIGNATIONS

If the proposed development or activity will be located in one of the following special land designations, check with the appropriate authorities for special land use and activity restrictions.

AIRPORT AREAS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Airport areas are regulated by three main laws (see below). Generally, the following considerations are important when building near an airport: safety of airport users, public safety, character of flying operations, noise levels, terrain, future development and Federal Aviation Administration regulations.

A. Airport Influence Areas: Local governments and airports work together to designate airport influence areas that are within 10,000 feet of the runway. Land use, noise, and structure and tree heights are regulated within these areas to ensure public safety and safe flying conditions. Anyone building or altering a structure or growing a tree in an airport influence area must apply to the local government in charge of airports for a permit.

Statute: 67-4-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Local Government
Zoning Board

B. Airport Hazard Regulation: Within two miles of an airport or landing field, no structure or tree may have a height of more than one-twentieth its distance from the nearest boundary of an airport (one-seventh of the distance if the structure is not in the approach or turning zones). Permit applications should be made with the federal, state, county or municipal government that regulates the airport.

Statute: 67-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Local, state or federal government that has jurisdiction over the airport

C. Airport Zoning Act: Federal, state or local governments having authority over airports may adopt regulations dividing airport hazard areas (areas within two miles of airports) into zones and specifying land uses permitted within each zone. The governments may, but are not required to, establish permitting systems for these zones above and beyond the hazard regulation permits. A variance may be granted if enforcement of the rules would cause unnecessary hardship, the proposed construction is not contrary to the public interest and the new structure does not present an immediate hazard to safe flying conditions.

Statute: Airport Zoning Act, 67-6-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Local, state or federal government that has jurisdiction over the airport

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

1. General

Lands located within a conservation district may be subject to land use regulations designed to conserve soil and water resources and prevent and control erosion. These regulations are adopted with voter approval through a referendum and are administered by the conservation district supervisors. Once the referendum is enacted, the district supervisors may compel compliance through a petition to district court. Variances awarded upon demonstration of great practical difficulties or unnecessary hardship are allowed.

The County Conservation District requires a 310 Permit when an applicant proposes work in or near a stream on public or private land (see STREAM BEDS - STREAM BANKS - WETLANDS, p. 11). Other types of activities regulated may include the following: engineering operations for dams, dikes, ponds, ditches, fences, and other construction; cultivation methods or grazing, including contour cultivating and furrowing, sowing, planting, seeding and forestation; cropping and tillage practices; and other practices to prevent soil erosion.

Statute: 76-15-701 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Conservation District (see APPENDIX 3 for a list of conservation districts by area); or

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Conservation Districts Bureau

FLOODPLAINS AND FLOODWAYS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Artificial obstructions and nonconforming uses within a designated floodplain or floodway require a permit from the local governing body or from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation if local authorities have not adopted rules. Local governments may adopt land use regulations, including floodplain management regulations within sheetflood areas, that may restrict development. If local regulations are not adopted, DNRC must enforce minimum standards adopted by the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation.

Statute: Floodplain and Floodway Management Act, 76-5-401 through 406, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.15.601 through 801

Contact: Local Government (City or County)

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
Water Operations Bureau

2. Application Requirements

The application for a permit for obstructions or uses in a designated floodplain or floodway must be submitted to the local government or the DNRC and must contain maps, plans, profiles and specifications of the obstruction or use of the water course or drainway.

Statute: 76-5-404, MCA

3. Permitting Procedures

Permits for obstructions or uses in a designated floodplain or floodway must be approved or denied within a reasonable time, usually 60 days after receipt of an application.

Statute: 76-5-405(2), MCA

Rule: ARM 36.15.216

4. Fees

An application fee, set by the local government, is required for a floodplain or floodway obstruction permit.

Statute: 76-5-405(3), MCA

Rule: ARM 36.15.204(3b)

5. Criteria

The following criteria must be considered by the local government in evaluating a permit application: danger to life and property by water that may be backed up or diverted by the obstruction or use; danger that the obstruction or use may be swept downstream and cause injury; alternative methods of construction or alteration of obstruction or use which will minimize the danger; the availability of alternate locations; permanence of the obstruction or use; anticipated development in the area and other factors specified by law.

Statute: 76-5-406, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.15.216

HERITAGE SITES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

State actions or state licensed, assisted, or permitted actions that have the potential to substantially alter heritage properties or paleontological remains on state-owned lands are regulated, as is excavation of heritage properties on state-owned lands.

In consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, the land management agency is required to determine whether a proposed action, initiated by the agency or by an applicant's request for a license or permit, may impact sites, structures or objects on state-owned lands that qualify or would qualify as heritage properties. If the action will affect such properties, the agency must seek ways to avoid or mitigate substantial alterations of the property whenever feasible. These procedures may require completion of a systematic cultural resources inventory, recordation of a property likely to be harmed, consideration of alternative projects, special protective stipulations, project modifications or denial of the project. Agencies may require applicants for permits or licenses to complete portions of this analysis. The land management agency is responsible for insuring that proper procedures are followed. After consultation with the Preservation Office, the agency is responsible for determining how to proceed with the proposed action.

Statute: Montana Antiquities Act, 22-3-421 through 442, MCA

Rule: Department of State Lands and the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks have agency rules; for other agencies check with the agency or the State Historic Preservation Office, Montana Historical Society

Contact: State Historic Preservation Officer
Montana Historical Society

ANTIQUITIES PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Individuals or organizations proposing to excavate a heritage property or paleontological remains on state-owned land for scholarly purposes must obtain an "antiquities permit" from the State Historic Preservation Officer. Permits may not be granted unless the Historic Preservation Officer is satisfied that the individuals carrying out the proposed work are qualified to guarantee proper excavation of those sites and objects that may add substantially to existing knowledge of the state and its antiquities.

Statute: Montana Antiquities Act, 22-3-421 through 442, MCA

Contact: Montana Historic Preservation Officer
Montana Historical Society

2. Criteria

The heritage value of any historic or prehistoric site identified is determined by the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation.

3. Additional Information

Applicants for licenses or permits are encouraged to provide the permitting or licensing agency with specific information on the legal location of the proposed project, previous land use and land condition. The material assists the agency and the State Historic Preservation Office to determine whether a cultural resource inventory of the proposed area is needed.

LAKESHORES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

If the local government has adopted lakeshore protection regulations, a permit is required for any work that will alter the current or cross-sectional area of a navigable lake or its shore. Such activities include construction of channels or ditches; dredging of the lake bottom to remove muck, silt or weeds; ponding; filling; and constructing breakwaters or wharves and docks.

Statute: 75-7-201 through 217, MCA

Rule: As adopted by local governments

Contact: The local governing body authorized to administer the Subdivision and Platting Act on land adjoining a lake, i.e., a board of county commissioners or the governing authority of the appropriate city or town.

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division

2. Application Requirements

Specific application requirements are set out in regulations adopted by the local government.

3. Permitting Procedures

A. Local Regulations: Check with the local government for specific procedures.

1) The local government must seek the recommendations of the local planning board.

2) The local government may provide a summary procedure to permit work it finds has a minimal or insignificant impact on a lakeshore.

3) The planning board must report its recommendations to the local government as to whether the proposed work conforms to the criteria for issuance of a permit, and it may require the applicant to submit additional information prior to making its recommendations.

4) A variance from local regulations may be obtained if an impact statement is prepared and a public hearing held.

B. Time requirements:

Unless the applicant for a lakeshore work permit agrees to an extension, the government must grant or deny the permit within 90 days.

Statute: 75-7-207, 211 through 213; MCA

4. Fees

See 75-7-210, MCA for a schedule of fees.

5. Criteria

The following are minimum requirements and do not restrict a local government from adopting additional or more stringent regulations as may be authorized by other statutes.

The proposed work will not, during construction or its utilization:

A. materially diminish water quality;

B. materially diminish habitat for fish or wildlife;

C. interfere with navigation or other lawful recreation;

D. create a public nuisance; or

F. create a visual impact discordant with natural scenic values as determined by the local government, where such values form the predominant landscape elements.

6. Additional Information

Land owners may petition the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to adopt regulations for a particular lake until the local government adopts the necessary regulations.

NATURAL AREAS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A natural area is one affected primarily by natural forces, with outstanding natural features worthy of preservation, and with minimal evidence of human activity. State-owned lands which are controlled or acquired by the Board of Land Commissioners may be designated as natural areas and leased for such purposes. Each area so designated will be leased and managed by a "managing entity" and will be subject to a master plan setting forth specific land use limitations and controls. Activities allowed in natural areas include grazing, recreation and snowmobiling. If feasible, the state of Montana will hold the water and mineral rights in order to adequately protect the area.

Statute: 76-12-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.5.201 *et seq.*

Contact: Board of Land Commissioners

Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Surface Management Bureau

OPEN SPACE - CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any public body may acquire title to or interest in real property for the purpose of preserving natural, scientific, educational or aesthetic resources. An interest less than fee simple ownership is obtained by a "conservation easement", whereby the landowner relinquishes to the holder of the easement the right to develop the land or alter its natural character. The terms of the easement may prohibit or limit construction, excavation, surface uses, etc. The existence of a conservation easement should appear on the deed to the property.

Statute: 76-6-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Local Government
County Clerk and Recorder

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Field Services Division

STATE LANDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Activities on state-owned land, including the beds of navigable waterways, generally require permits, leases or easements from the Department of State Lands and approval from the Board of Land Commissioners. (See: HERITAGE SITES, p. 4; AGRICULTURE, p. 15; FORESTRY, p. 49; GEOTHERMAL LEASES, p. 32; HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT ON STATE LANDS, p. 35; MINING, p. 79; NATURAL AREAS, p. 8; and OIL AND GAS, p. 109).

In addition, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and other state agencies should be contacted for information regarding rules and procedures on lands owned or administered by those agencies.

2. Easements

The Board of Land Commissioners may grant easements on state lands for schoolhouse sites or grounds, public parks, community buildings, cemeteries or other public uses upon proper application accompanied by accurate and verified plats. The board also may grant an easement for right-of-way across any portion of state lands,

including the beds of navigable waterways, for any public highway or street, ditch, reservoir, railroad, private road, telegraph or telephone line, or any other public use (see HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENTS - EASEMENTS, p. 58). Application for an easement on state lands must be made to the Department of State Lands. Compensation must be the full market value of the use of the land, plus any diminution in value of adjacent state lands.

3. Exchange of Land

The Board of Land Commissioners is authorized to exchange state land for private land provided that the private land is of equal or greater value than the state land and approximately equal in area. Prior to the land exchange, a public hearing must be held in the county containing the state land to be exchanged. Objections to the exchange may be made at the hearing.

4. Leases

State lands may be leased to any person over 18 years old, heads of families, and to associations, partnerships and corporations. When the department receives an application to lease a tract, it will advertise for bids and accept the highest bid, unless the board determines that the highest bid is not in the best interest of the state. For more details on specific types of leases, see AGRICULTURE, p. 15; FORESTRY, p. 49; MINING, p. 79; GEOTHERMAL LEASES ON STATE LANDS, p. 32; and OIL AND GAS, p. 109.

Statute: Title 77, Chapters 1-6, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.2.201 *et seq.*, ARM 26.2.301 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division

5. Recreational Use License

A "recreational use" license is required for anyone 12 years old or older who wishes to hunt, fish, hike or birdwatch on state land. The license is issued for a twelve month period beginning March 1 of each year and expiring the last day of February the following year. (see also HUNTING, FISHING etc., p. 60; and, PARKS AND RECREATION, p. 116.)

Lessees of state land can request approval from the DSL for closure of their leased

lands if access would interfere with agricultural or ranching operations. The DSL may also close certain state lands for a number of reasons, including damage to lands from recreational use or the existence of endangered species, but must first provide public notice and an opportunity for public hearing.

The fee for a recreational use license if $5.

Statute: 77-1-804, *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.183 *et seq.*

6. **Sales of Land**

The Board of Land Commissioners is authorized to sell state lands, with the exception of timberlands and those lands containing valuable deposits of coal, oil, oil shale, phosphate, metals, sodium or other valuable minerals. No person or corporation may purchase more than one section of state land, and this area shall not include more than 160 acres of land susceptible of irrigation. All sales of state lands are conducted through public auction held at the county courthouse of the county in which the lands are located. The current lessee of state land retains a preference right which allows the lessee to match the high bid and, therefore, be awarded the sale.

STREAM BEDS - STREAM BANKS - WETLANDS

1. A. **Private Projects -- Types of Activities Regulated**

Any private, non-governmental individual or corporation that proposes to work in or near a stream on public or private land must apply for a 310 permit from the board of supervisors of the conservation district in which the project takes place. The applicant should contact the County Conservation District (Title 76, Chapter 15, MCA) prior to initiating any activity.

Statute: Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act, 75-7-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Conservation District (see APPENDIX 3 for a list of conservation districts by area); or

Board of County Commissioners; or

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Conservation Districts Bureau

B. **Private Projects -- Permitting Procedures**

Any person planning a project must contact the conservation district office to obtain a permit application prior to any activity in or near a stream. After submission of an application to the conservation district office, district supervisors must determine within five days of their monthly meeting if the proposed activity requires a 310 permit. If a permit is required, a team composed of a district supervisor; a Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologist; and the landowner conduct a site inspection. The supervisors have 60 days from the date of application to approve or deny the permit.

Statute: 75-7-112 through 116, MCA

C. **Private Projects -- Criteria**

The regulatory purpose of the Montana Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act is to minimize soil erosion; maintain water quality and stream channel integrity; and prevent property damage to adjacent landowners.

D. **Emergencies**

No prior notice or approval is necessary for emergency actions taken to safeguard life or property. However, notice must be given to the supervisors or commissioners within 15 days following the emergency action. A team will be called together as described above to evaluate the project.

Statute: 75-7-113, MCA

2. A. **Public Projects -- Types of Activities Regulated**

Any agency or subdivision of federal, state, county, or city government must apply for a Stream Protection Act (also called 124) permit from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks before commencing any project that may alter the bed or banks of any stream or river in Montana.

Statute: 87-5-501 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Fisheries Division

B. **Public Projects -- Permitting Procedures**

Any agency planning a project must submit a Notice of Construction (application) to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, at least 60 days prior to the commencement of construction. Within 30 days after receipt of project plans, the DFWP must notify the applicant whether or not the project will adversely affect any fish or game habitat. The department may require modifications to the project and make recommendations for alternative plans. If the applicant refuses to modify his or her plans, and an agreement cannot be reached, an arbitration panel may be appointed by the district court.

C. **Public Projects -- Criteria**

The purpose of the Montana Stream Protection Act is to protect and preserve fish and wildlife resources in their natural existing state.

3. **Other Information and Requirements**

A Montana Land Use License or Easement is required by any entity proposing a project on lands below the low water mark of navigable waters as determined by the Department of State Lands (see STATE LANDS, p. 9).

Under Section 10, Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, any structure or work on, over, or under navigable waters requires authorization from the U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. Navigable waters in Montana regulated by the Corps under the Rivers and Harbors Act include the Missouri River from Three Forks downstream to the Montana-North Dakota border, the Yellowstone River from Emigrant downstream to its confluence with the Missouri River, and the Kootenai River from the Canadian border downstream to Jennings, Montana.

In addition, a permit is required under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the placement of any dredged or fill material into United State's waters or wetlands.

Anyone planning new construction -- including, but not limited to -- placement of fill, roads, bridges, culverts, transmission lines, irrigation facilities, storage of equipment or materials, excavation, and new construction of or additions to mobile homes and residential and commercial buildings must check with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to determine if the activity is in a designated floodplain or floodway (see FLOODPLAINS and

FLOODWAYS, p. 3).

A 3A authorization must be obtained prior to initiating a short-term activity that may cause unavoidable short-term violations of state water quality standards for turbidity, total dissolved solids, or temperature (see WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS p. 160).

Statute: Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. § 401 *et seq.*
Clean Water Act, 816, 33 U.S.C.A. § 1251 *et seq.*

Rule: 33 C.F.R. 209 and 40 Federal Register 31319
ARM 36.2.401, *et seq.*

Contact: U.S. Department of the Army
Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Montana Office, Helena

AGRICULTURE

ANIMAL CONFINEMENT FACILITIES (Feedlots)

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A permit is required from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences for any animal confinement facility which could discharge livestock waste into state waters following a 25-year, 24-hour or smaller rainfall event. (See WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160. Other permits may also be required depending on the location of the facility: see STREAM BEDS, STREAM BANKS, WETLANDS p. 11; CONSERVATION DISTRICTS p. 2).

Rule: ARM 16.20.633 and 16.20.1301 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

CROPLAND LEASES ON STATE LANDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Board of Land Commissioners may lease state lands for general agricultural use. Cropland leases are based on a "crop share rental value" of not less than one-fourth of the annual crop, or the usual "landlord's share", whichever is greater. (See also GRAZING p. 17).

Statute: 77-6-501 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.129 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Surface Management Bureau

2. **Leasing Procedures**

A. Leases go to the highest bidder, unless the board determines that this decision would not be in the state's best interest.

B. Present leaseholders have a preference right over others seeking to lease the same land. Such present holders may meet the highest bid made by any applicant by exercising their preference right, and may appeal the bid to the board if they consider the bid excessive. Present holders may exercise their preference only if they have not subleased the land for more than two years in the term of the lease or more than five years if subleased to a spouse, son, daughter, adopted child or sibling of the lessee. Additionally, the preference is valid only if the lessee has not abused any conditions of the lease.

C. Lease terms are five or ten years.

Statute: 77-6-201 *et seq.,* MCA

FERTILIZER REGISTRATION

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Fertilizers and soil amendments, except unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures, must be registered with the Department of Agriculture (DOA) before distribution in Montana. An annual license, which expires on December 31 of each year, is required from the DOA to sell or distribute fertilizer. (See also PESTICIDES, p. 19).

Statute: 80-10-201 and 202, MCA

Rule: ARM 4.12.601 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Agriculture
Plant Industry Division

2. **Application Requirements**

The applicant for a fertilizer distribution license must complete forms provided by the DOA. All applications for fertilizer registration must include the brand, grade and guaranteed analysis of the fertilizer, the source of each plant food element, the name and address of the applicant, a copy or facsimile of the label and promotional material, and, if requested, replicated data verifying claims for effectiveness.

Statute: 80-1-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 4.12.601 and 604

3. Fees

A. The fee for registering fertilizers is $20 per grade for each fertilizer and soil amendment, and $35 for each specialty fertilizer.

B. New applicants for fertilizer distribution licenses, or those failing to renew by January 1, pay a nonrefundable $75 fee. License renewals received before January 1 are $50.

C. The DOA also assesses inspection fees on the tonnage of fertilizer distributed. These fees are 10 cents per ton for soil amendments, 60 cents per ton for fertilizers and $1 per ton for anhydrous ammonia.

Statute: 80-10-201, 202 and 207; MCA

Rule: ARM 4.12.608

GRAZING

1. Grazing Districts

A. Preferences and permits for grazing within a grazing district must be obtained from the district directors.

Statute: 76-16-310, MCA

Contact: Grazing District Directors

B. Any person who wishes to obtain grazing preferences (i.e., the right to obtain a grazing permit from the district) must make an application to the district. Temporary permits may be issued to non-members on an annual basis upon application to the district.

C. Transfer of preferences may not be allowed without the written consent of the owner of the property from which the transfer is to be made. A transfer is not effective until approved by the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

D. Prior to the transfer, a public hearing must be held before the board of directors of the district.

Statute: 76-16-401 *et seq.*, MCA

2. **State Leases**

A. The Department of State Lands issues leases, through competitive bidding, for grazing on state lands.

Statute: 77-6-101 *et seq.* and 77-6-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.129 *et seq.* and 26.2.401

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Surface Management Bureau

B. Leasing Procedures

1) When the Department of State Lands receives an application to lease state lands for grazing purposes, it must advertise for bids on the tract. The tract must be leased to the highest bidder unless the Board of Land Commissioners determines that the bid is not in the state's best interest. All bidding is by sealed bid mailed to the department headquarters in Helena.

2) A present lease holder has a preferential right to meet the highest bid unless the board determines such bid to be excessive. The preferential right may only be exercised if the present holder actually used the land as specified by rule.

3) A person bidding for the lease of state lands must deposit with the Department of State Lands a certified check, cashier's check or money order in an amount equal to 20 percent of the annual rental bid for grazing land and an amount equal to $1 per acre for each acre of agricultural land.

4) The rental rate for leasing state grazing lands is based on the appraised animal-unit-month carrying capacity of the land.

3. Federal Leases

The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service issue grazing leases and grazing permits for federal land administered by those agencies.

Statute: Organic Administration Act
Federal Land Policy and Management Act
Public Rangelands Improvement Act
Taylor Grazing Act

Rule: 43 C.F.R. § 4100, 36 C.F.R. § 222(A)

Contact: Bureau of Land Management
District Office

U.S. Forest Service
Forest Supervisor

PESTICIDES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The manufacturer, formulator, or distributor of each pesticide distributed, sold, or transported in Montana must register the pesticide annually with the Department of Agriculture. Commercial applicators must be licensed annually by the Department of Agriculture (expiration is December 31 following date of issuance), and farm applicators must obtain special use permits for restricted pesticides. Pesticide dealers also must be licensed annually by the department (expiration is December 31 following date of issuance). Aerial applicators must register their aircraft with the Department of Transportation and certify that they have met all Federal Aviation Administration requirements for aerial pesticide applicators.

Statute: Montana Pesticides Act; 80-8-101 *et seq.*, MCA
Montana Agricultural Chemical Ground Water Protection Act; 80-15-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 4.10.1501 *et seq.*
ARM 4.11.101 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Agriculture
Agricultural and Biological Sciences Division

Department of Transportation
Aeronautics Division

2. Application Requirements

A. The applicant for pesticide registration must file a statement with the Department of Agriculture including name and address, a complete copy of the pesticide label, trade and chemical name of the pesticide and if required by the DOA, a description of tests made and the results upon which the claims are based. The state must accept for registration all federally registered products. However, the state may restrict or prohibit the use of a pesticide to prevent harm to individuals, property, plants, trees, animals or fish.

B. The applicant for a pesticide applicator's license must file annually with the Department of Agriculture prior to using a pesticide each year. The DOA's application and liability forms must be completed. The license is renewed if the applicant has not violated any regulations. An operator's license is required for persons employed by an applicator to apply pesticides. A pesticide applicator's and operator's examination or training also is required of each new applicant. Applicants are required to maintain their qualifications in subsequent licensing years by attending training courses.

C. An individual applying for a license to engage in aerial application of pesticides must certify on the application that he or she has met all the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Agriculture requirements for aerial pesticide applicators.

D. An applicant for a dealer's license must file annually with the Department of Agriculture. The applicant must pass an examination administered by the DOA. Dealers are also required to maintain their qualifications in subsequent licensing years by attending training courses.

E. Farmers must file for a new special-use permit every five years. Farm applicators qualify for their first permit by either passing a graded written examination or attending a training course approved by the DOA and taking an ungraded written examination. They must also maintain their qualifications by periodically attending training courses.

Statute: 80-8-201, 203-209, 211; and 80-15-302; MCA

Rule: ARM 4.10.201, 203-209; 4.10.401-404 and 4.10.501-504

3. Permitting Procedures

A. The Departments of Health and Environmental Sciences, Agriculture, and Fish, Wildlife and Parks must review all applications for registration of an experimental-use permit or registration of a pesticide for special local needs. The departments utilize the same requirements and standards for reviewing registrations as established by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

B. The Departments of Health and Environmental Sciences and Fish, Wildlife and Parks must approve or disapprove applications within 10 days after receipt.

C. If two of the three departments are in agreement with the proposed registration, the Department of Agriculture must issue the registration.

Statute: 80-8-201(8), MCA

4. Fees

A. The fee for each registered pesticide is $150 annually.

B. The fee for a special local need or experimental-use permit registration is an initial one-time fee of $70.

C. The fee for a commercial pesticide applicator's license is $75 annually.

D. The annual fee for a government applicator's license is $75 for each of the first four employees of the government agency, and $20 for each additional employee applicator, not to exceed $600 for an agency.

E. The fee for pesticide operators is $10 each for the first two operators and $5 for each additional operator.

F. The annual application fee for a commercial dealer's license is $75. The annual fee for a government dealer's license is $75.

G. The fee for a farm applicator permit is $50 for a five year permit.

H. Dealers or applicators applying for renewal of a license must do so on or before March 1 of the calendar year. Any previously licensed dealer or applicator applying for renewal of license after March 1 is assessed a $25 late license fee.

Statute: 80-8-201, 203 through 209, 213; and 80-15-302(1), MCA

Rule: ARM 4.10.206(4)

5. **Criteria**

A. If it does not appear to the Department of Agriculture that the pesticide warrants proposed claims for it or if the article and its labeling do not comply with the Montana Pesticides Act, the department must notify the applicant to allow him or her an opportunity to make the necessary corrections.

B. If the applicant does not make the corrections, the DOA may refuse to register the pesticide.

C. The DOA decision may be appealed.

Statute: 80-8-201(6), MCA

6. **Disposal**

Empty containers must be disposed of according to label instructions. This disposal must not cause injury to humans, domestic animals and wildlife, or pollute lakes and streams. Most empty pesticide containers must be triple rinsed, punctured and recycled or disposed of in a sanitary landfill.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS

1. Types of Activities Regulated.

Owners and operators of flammable/combustible liquid installations must submit a plan describing the proposed facility to the Montana Department of Justice, Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau, prior to installing, operating, removing, abandoning, temporarily taking out of service or otherwise disposing of any tank used for the storage of flammable or combustible liquids. This submission of plans is intended only for the purpose of verifying compliance with the Uniform Fire Code (UFC) and federal law.

Rule: U.F.C. § 4.108 f.3 (modified)

Contact: Department of Justice
State Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau

2. Application Requirements

All applications must be made in writing and accompanied by such plans as described by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau. The plans must indicate: the methods of storage; quantities to be stored; product to be stored; distances between tanks, (if more than one); distances from buildings; property lines and public ways; access ways; and, degree of fire protection - public or private. Plans must also include the method or means by which Spill Control, Drainage Control and Secondary Containment is attained; i.e., drainage systems or diking. Storage must be in accordance with approved plans.

Rule: U.F.C. Article 79 (modified) and U.F.C. § 79-115

3. Approval Procedures

Before approval may be issued, an inspector from the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau or an authorized representative may inspect the premises or areas to be used. Such inspection will include associated buildings on the premises. In instances where laws or regulations are enforceable by other "authorities having jurisdiction", joint approval must be obtained from all agencies or departments concerned.

Rule: U.F.C. § 4.404 (modified)

4. **Additional Information**

A. Tank Construction and Design

Tanks must comply with the standards adopted by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau, and must be built in accordance with recognized good engineering standards for the construction material used.

Rule: U.F.C. § 79.106(a)

B. Tank Identification

Aboveground petroleum storage tanks of over 100 gallon capacity permanently installed, mounted or affixed and used for the storage of Class I, II or III-A liquids (for example; gasolines, aviation gas, jet and diesel fuels, and fuel oils) must bear a placard identifying the product in accordance with UFC Standard 79-3. Tanks of 300 gallon or less capacity located on private property and used for heating and cooking fuels in single-family dwellings are exempt from this requirement.

Rule: U.F.C. § 79-110

C. Tank Abandonment or Closure

Aboveground tanks temporarily out of service and tanks proposed to be out of service for a period of ninety days or more must have all connecting lines isolated from the tank and secured against tampering. Vents must remain open and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the UFC for vents.

Any aboveground storage tank which has been out of service for a period of one year or more must be removed from the property in a manner approved by the Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau. Tanks located at refineries, bulk plants and terminals that are in operation are exempt from this requirement.

Rule: U.F.C. §§ 79.116(b)2., 79.116(c)2. and 79.116(d)

D. Other

Flammable or combustible liquids and petroleum waste products must not be discharged or released upon sidewalks, streets, highways, drainage canals, ditches, storm drains, sewers, flood channels, lakes, rivers, streams, tidal waterways or on the ground. Unauthorized discharge or release of such products shall be handled as set forth in Section 80-105 of the UFC. Discharges or releases may also be regulated under the federal Clean Water Act in the event the discharge or release enters "navigable waters".

Rule: U.F.C. § 79.113

BUILDING CODES AND RESTRICTIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The state-wide building code applies to all construction throughout the state with the exception of residential structures with fewer than five dwelling units, farm and ranch buildings, private garage and storage structures used only by the owner, and mine buildings on mine property regulated under the Metal Mine Reclamation Act. Such structures may be regulated only if municipalities or counties, by adopting local ordinances or resolutions, make the state building code applicable to these residential and farm or ranch structures. If towns or counties adopt local building codes, enforcement is by local rather than state authorities.

All residential construction, except farm and ranch buildings and garage and storage structures used by the owner, are required to meet energy conservation provisions of the state building code. If the energy conservation codes are not enforced by local or state government for those residential buildings containing less than five dwelling units, the builder must certify to the owner that the building is constructed in compliance with the energy code. A person constructing a new residential building must attach a labeling sticker to the interior electrical panel stating the energy features of that building.

2. Application Procedures

A permit must be obtained from the appropriate authorities before construction can begin.

26 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Statute: 50-60-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.70.101 *et seq.*

Contact: City or Town Council

Board of County Commissioners

Department of Commerce
Public Safety Division
Building Codes Bureau

3. **Fees**

Various fees are required for building, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical permits. These are listed in the Department of Commerce rules concerning building codes.

Statute: 50-60-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.70.101 *et seq.*

PLANNING

1. **Applicability**

The master plan is the primary land use planning tool and document of the city or county. After a public hearing, the planning board recommends the plan to the governing body, which either rejects or accepts it with or without modification. All zoning ordinances and land use decisions must "be guided by and give consideration to" the master plan. In addition, governing bodies may require subdivision plats to conform to provisions of the master plan.

Statute: 76-1-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Local Government
Local Planning Board

Department of Commerce
Local Government Assistance Division
Community Development Bureau

ZONING

1. Applicability

Before commencing any development or activity, a person should determine if local zoning regulations exist. Under Montana law, cities, towns and counties may adopt zoning regulations and establish zoning districts for the regulation of height and size of buildings, percentage of lot occupied, size of yards, population density, location and use of buildings, etc. If zoning exists, a permit for the development or activity may be required.

Statute: 76-2-101 *et seq.* and 76-2-201 *et seq.*, MCA (counties)
76-2-301 *et seq.*, MCA (municipalities)
76-2-401 *et seq.*, MCA (counties and municipalities)

Contact: Local Government

Local Zoning Commission

Department of Commerce
Local Government Assistance Division
Community Development Bureau

COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL - ENERGY

AIR QUALITY PERMITS: STATE

1. Types of Activities Regulated

An air quality preconstruction permit and/or an air quality operating permit are required from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences for the construction, installation and operation of equipment or facilities that may directly or indirectly cause or contribute to air pollution. Exceptions include residential heating units, food service establishments, ventilating systems, motor vehicles, trains, aircraft, road construction (except stationary sources - see * below) and other sources which emit less than specified amounts. The city or county may administer its own air quality permit program in lieu of part or all of the DHES's permit program if the program is approved by the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences.

* Permits are required for temporary crushers and asphalt plants.

Statute: Montana Clean Air Act; 75-2-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1101 *et seq.* and ARM 16.8.921 *et seq.*

Contact: Local Board of Health

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau

2. Application Requirements

Applicants for air quality preconstruction permits must file the appropriate permit applications with the DHES on forms supplied by the department neither later than 180 days before construction nor later than 120 days before installation, alteration, or use of the facility begins.

Applications for air quality operating permits must be submitted concurrently with any associated preconstruction permit. Existing major sources [for definition of major sources see ARM 16.8.921(22)] must apply for operating permits on a schedule available from the DHES.

Statute: 75-2-211, 217; MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1105

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. Preconstruction Permits

1) The application for an air quality preconstruction permit is not considered filed until all filing requirements are completed. However, if the DHES fails to notify the applicant within 30 days that an application is incomplete, the application is considered complete.

2) The applicant must notify the public by means of legal publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed facility. The notice must be made neither sooner than 10 days prior to submittal of the application nor later than 10 days after submittal. The DHES will supply the form of the notice.

3) Within 40 days after receipt of the complete and filed application for a permit, the DHES must make a preliminary determination whether the permit should be issued, issued with conditions or denied.

4) Not withstanding the opportunity for public comment (15 days), a final department determination must be made within 60 days after a completed and filed application is submitted to the DHES. If an environmental impact statement is required, final action must be taken within 180 days. (See MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT, p. 105)

5) The applicant may appeal the department's determination to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences. Any person adversely affected by the decision to approve or deny the application may also appeal to the board, upon affidavit explaining the grounds for the appeal, within 15 days of the department's determination.

6) If no appeal is filed, the permit becomes final 15 days after the department's determination. If an appeal is filed, the permit

becomes final after any board or judicial action is final.

Statute: 75-2-211, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1107-1115

B. Operating Permits

Operating permits must be obtained for all new and existing major sources of air pollution and are subject to the same completeness and appeal procedures as the preconstruction permits. In addition, the application for an operating permit requires more extensive public notification, including the requirement that the applicant notify surrounding states and the EPA. Operating permits must be renewed every five years.

4. **Fees**

The DHES assesses an application fee and an operating fee from the applicant to fund the air quality permitting program and to implement and enforce the terms and conditions of the air quality permit.

Statute: 75-2-211, MCA
75-2-220, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1901 *et seq.*

5. **Criteria**

An air quality permit to construct or operate a new or altered air pollution source cannot be issued unless the source is able to comply with the standards, emission limitations and other rules adopted under the Montana Clean Air Act, the applicable regulations and requirements of the federal Clean Air Act, any applicable control strategy contained in the Montana state implementation plan, and demonstrates that it will not cause or contribute to a violation of a Montana or national ambient air quality standard.

Rule: ARM 16.8.1109

6. Additional Information

A. Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD)

1) When a major new source of air pollution is proposed to be constructed or modified in an area in compliance with ambient air quality standards, a more stringent review procedure may apply. Such review may include one year of preapplication baseline data, control technology review, air pollution impact modeling, and other appropriate measures.

2) The DHES must: (a) advertise in a newspaper of general circulation in the air quality control region affected by the proposed source that an application has been received, the DHES's preliminary determination, the degree of increment consumption expected from the source, how written comments may be submitted and how the DHES's final determination may be appealed to the board; and (b) forward copies of the notice of public comment to the applicant, Region VIII Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to area officials and agencies affected by the proposed construction.

Rule: ARM 16.8.921 *et seq.*

B. New Source Review in Nonattainment Areas

Major new or modified sources of air pollution constructing in or near areas that are not attaining ambient air quality standards must meet additional permitting criteria, including obtaining emission offsets and installing control equipment that meets the lowest achievable emission rate (LAER).

Rule: ARM 16.8.1109(6)-(8)

C. Variances

A person may apply to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences for an exemption from applicable rules governing emissions. Such a variance may be issued if the board finds there will be no adverse impact on public health or safety, and that compliance with the rules would be an undue hardship on the applicant. The length of the variance is at the board's discretion and the variance may

be renewed. An applicant for a variance must submit a sum of two percent of the cost of equipment needed to bring the facility into compliance with the rule from which the exemption is sought, but not less than $500 nor more than $80,000.

Statute: 75-2-212, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.101

AIR QUALITY PERMITS: FEDERAL

Federal air quality permits are only required for activities on the state's seven Indian reservations. The state has responsibility for all other air-permit related facilities, including federal facilities.

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau

Environmental Protection Agency
Montana Office, Helena

GEOTHERMAL LEASES

Development of geothermal resources will generally require the appropriation of water rights (see WATER APPROPRIATIONS - GROUND WATER, p. 155), and may require a certificate of public need and environmental compatibility (see MAJOR FACILITY SITING ACT, p. 41). For general information, contact the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Energy Division, Conservation and Renewable Energy Bureau.

GEOTHERMAL LEASES ON STATE LANDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Board of Land Commissioners may lease state-owned lands, including the beds of navigable streams and the beds of navigable bodies of water, for the purposes of prospecting, exploration, well construction or production of geothermal resources.

Statute: 77-4-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.401 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of State Land
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. **Permitting Procedures**

A. A person wishing to lease state lands for geothermal operations must submit an application form supplied by the Department of State Lands containing an adequate description of the land. A water right may also be required. (See WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS, p. 156; WATER APPROPRIATIONS - GROUND WATER, p. 155).

B. Sale of geothermal leases occurs after receipt of a sufficient number of applications to warrant a sale or at the Commissioner's discretion.

C. Notice of sale must be published in a geothermal trade journal or in two newspapers of general circulation in Lewis and Clark County. Notice must be published for four weeks preceding the sale date. Sale may be by competitive bid.

D. A bond in a minimum amount of $2000 is required to protect the state's interest in the resource.

E. The term of a geothermal lease is 10 years. Compensation must be paid to surface lessee, if any, for any damage to the surface or the lease holder's interest.

Rule: ARM 26.3.405

3. **Fees**

The required fee for a geothermal lease application is $25. Rental and royalty charges are determined by the board but are not less than $1 per acre, not less than 10 percent of the amount or value of steam, heat or energy produced, and not more than 5 percent of any byproduct.

Rule: ARM 26.3.405 and 408

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES -- COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The purpose of the federal Emergency and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA -- also known as SARA Title III) is to provide local governments and the public with information about hazardous substances in their communities in order to encourage and support facility planning in the event of an accidental release or spill.

Under the EPCRA, the governor of each state appoints a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), which in turn appoints Emergency Planning Districts and a Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC) for each district. In Montana, each county is a district, thus there are 56 districts and LEPCs. Any person or facility with designated types and quantities of hazardous or toxic substances must compile information on the chemicals it uses, stores and releases into the environment and provide this information to the SERC, the LEPC, and the local fire department. The LEPCs receive and maintain information, assist in facility planning, and develop a district plan to prepare for chemical emergencies.

Rule: 40 C.F.R. § 301 *et seq.*

Contact: Local Emergency Planning Commission (see APPENDIX 3)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington D.C.
EPA Hotline: 1-800-535-0202

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences

HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Non-federal hydroelectric power plants on navigable waters of the United States, those which occupy federal land or utilize water power from a government dam, or those which, under certain circumstances, affect the interest of interstate or foreign commerce must be licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). "Navigable waters of the United States" includes virtually all waters in Montana and the other 49 states. As a result, FERC is the lead agency in the licensing of new hydropower facilities and in the re-licensing of existing facilities. FERC, acting under the authority of the Federal Power Act (as amended by the Electric Consumers Protection Act of 1986) and agency rules, processes and evaluates the federal

applications required for all hydropower dams, diversions, and other hydropower developments; reviews environmental impacts of hydropower projects and determines appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures; and sets requirements governing the sale of the hydropower generated.

There are six primary subject areas where state regulation of hydroelectric power must be considered in addition to the federal requirements under FERC. These areas (and the responsible state agencies) are:

1) Water rights permits: Contact DNRC, Water Rights Bureau, (see WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS, p. 156).
2) 310 permit for altering a perennial stream: Contact DNRC, Conservation Districts Bureau or the local Conservation District supervisor (see CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, p. 2).
3) Water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act: Contact DHES, Water Quality Bureau.
4) Fish and wildlife impact evaluation (no permit required): Contact DFWP regional office.
5) Hydropower projects on state land (see below).
6) Hydropower projects on state-owned dams (see below).

In addition, a 404 permit is required from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for any dredge and fill activity or other work affecting United State's waters or wetlands. Contact the U.S. Department of the Army, Corp of Engineers, (see STREAM BEDS - STREAM BANKS - WETLANDS, p. 11).

Statute: Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 791a *et seq.*

Contact: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Hydropower Licensing
Washington D.C.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Regional Office
Portland, Oregon

HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT ON STATE LANDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Board of Land Commissioners may grant leases for construction and operation of hydroelectric power sites on state lands to any person, corporation or municipality.

(see HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT, p. 34).

Statute: 77-4-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Surface Management Bureau

2. **Application Requirements**

An application must be presented to the board for lease or license of a power site on state lands. A preliminary examination of the proposed site's value for development is required. If the investigation requires further proceedings, the board must publish a notice regarding the proposed lease or license for six weeks in two state newspapers, one of which must be from the affected area. The board, at its meeting on the proposed site, may consider the original application along with any other filed applications. The board has the power to reject any or all bids. Acceptance depends on which offer is considered to be most advantageous to the state. The Board of Land Commissioners may establish any reasonable restrictions and regulations in the lease or license to protect the state and its people. Bid preferences are given to municipalities. The term of the lease cannot exceed 50 years.

Statute: 77-4-203 through 211, MCA

HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT AT STATE-OWNED DAMS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The Board of Natural Resources and Conservation may lease sites at state water projects which it determines to be feasible for energy generation and in the best interest of the people of Montana.

2. **Application Procedures**

A. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation must study the economic and environmental feasibility of construction and operating a small-scale hydroelectric power generating facility on each of its dams, and shall periodically update the studies. If the board determines that hydroelectric generation at a state-owned dam is feasible based on the department's study, the board must publish an advertisement soliciting

lease applications.

B. Following such publication, individuals, public utilities and electric cooperatives have 180 days to submit applications to the board. Applications must include a statement of the capability of the applicant to achieve the annual production output estimated by the department, the estimated time to make the project operational, the bid amount of the royalty and any other information that the board requests.

C. The board will hold a hearing to examine all applications, and must decide whether to accept or reject applications within 180 days after the close of the application period.

D. Any necessary federal licenses or permits must be held by the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

E. The duration of the lease may not exceed the term of such federal permits and may in no case exceed 55 years.

F. If no acceptable applications are received, the board may reject all bids and the department may proceed to develop the hydroelectric generation facility.

Statute: 85-1-501 through 514, MCA

Contact: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division

INCINERATORS - COMMERCIAL MEDICAL WASTE

Permits for commercial medical waste incinerators are required under both the Montana Clean Air Act (see AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28) and the Montana Solid Waste Management Act (see SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, p. 129). The Board of Health and Environmental Sciences also has the authority to adopt specific rules regulating medical waste incinerators and to establish additional permit requirements because of the potential health risks from associated substances. The definition of commercial medical waste incinerator does not include hospital or medical facilities that primarily incinerate medical waste generated onsite.

Statute: 75-2-231, MCA.

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division

Air Quality Bureau
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau

INCINERATORS - HAZARDOUS WASTE

See SOLID WASTE -- HAZARDOUS WASTE, Incinerators, p. 125.

INDOOR EMISSIONS - OCCUPATIONAL NOISE

ASBESTOS CONTROL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau, has the statutory authority to approve course work for accreditation of persons engaged in asbestos abatement projects, for accreditation of persons engaged in an asbestos-related occupation, and for control and issuance of asbestos project permits.

Statute: 75-2-501 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.42.301-405

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

2. Accreditation Requirements

A person seeking accreditation as an asbestos inspector, an asbestos abatement management planner, an asbestos abatement project designer, an asbestos abatement contractor, an asbestos abatement supervisor, or an asbestos abatement worker must submit a properly completed application form, along with a fee, to the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau, and complete an asbestos-related training course approved by the department. Accreditation for each of the above asbestos-type occupations must be renewed annually.

Statute: 75-2-502 and 511, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.42.308-310

3. **Permitting Requirements and Procedures**

A. No person in charge of an asbestos abatement project may perform work on any asbestos-containing material which is an integral part of a continuous surface exceeding 3 square feet or 3 feet of thermal system insulation per year without a permit.

B. Persons applying for a permit must submit, by certified mail, an application to the DHES, Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau. The application should include 1) a description of the structure and the work to be performed; 2) a signed statement that all work will be performed according to federal standards; 3) a list of accredited workers; 4) a signed statement that the removed asbestos will be properly disposed of; and, 5) the required fee.

Statute: 75-2-501 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.42.321

4. **Fees**

All persons seeking accreditation or application renewal for an asbestos-related occupation must pay a $125 fee, except for asbestos workers, who must pay a $30 fee. The annual asbestos abatement project permit fee for large facilities is $500. Other project fees are based on the percentage of the contract volume. Check with the DHES, ORHB for precise amounts.

Statute: 75-2-503 and 511, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.42.401

INDOOR EMISSIONS - OCCUPATIONAL NOISE

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau, DHES, has the authority to regulate occupational exposure to noise and certain hazardous chemicals in work places that

are under the jurisdiction of state and local governments. The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulates noise and exposure to certain hazardous chemicals in all privately owned work places. The DHES neither requires nor issues permits for the operation of machinery that may emit pollutants into an enclosed work area.

Statute: 50-70-112, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.42.101: Occupational Noise
ARM 16.42.102: Occupational Air Contamination

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

RADIATION CONTROL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission licenses users of byproduct materials, source materials and special nuclear materials in Montana. A number of record keeping and handling requirements apply.

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau has statutory authority to register and regulate machine sources of ionizing radiation (i.e., x-rays, accelerators, etc.). Registration of such machines is required of the owner after acquisition of the machine and prior to its use. Registration forms are available from the Department. A number of recordkeeping and use requirements also apply.

In addition, the DHES has statutory authority to license users of naturally occurring and electronically produced radionuclides but funding is inadequate to operate a licensing program at this time.

Statute: 75-3-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.40.201-205, 16.40.301-324

Contact: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau

RADON CONTROL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Prior to selling any "inhabitable" property, the seller or his or her agent must provide a designated disclosure statement (see 75-3-606, MCA) alerting the buyer to the existence of naturally occurring radon gas in some buildings in Montana and the associated health risks.

Anyone who wishes to be publicly listed by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences in a radon-related occupation must pass a proficiency examination administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Statute: Montana Radon Control Act; 75-3-601 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Montana office, Helena

MAJOR FACILITY SITING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A Certificate of Public Need and Environmental Compatibility may be required from the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation (BNRC) for major facilities that generate or transmit electricity, produce gas derived from coal or liquid hydrocarbons or transmit these fuels and other substances by pipeline, enrich uranium minerals, utilize or convert coal, or utilize geothermal resources. Associated facilities such as transportation links, aqueducts, diversion dams, transmission substations and other facilities associated with the production or delivery of energy are included. Crude oil and natural gas refineries and facilities subject to the Montana Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act are excluded. Federally owned or controlled facilities must satisfy the substantive criteria of the Siting Act. Certification is also required from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (DHES) to ensure that, prior to construction, the facility has received the proper permits for air emissions; wastewater

discharges; the generation, transportation, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes; or other relevant permits administered by the DHES. Special procedures apply for facilities also subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Statute: Montana Major Facility Siting Act, 75-20-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Energy Division
Facility Siting Bureau

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Water Quality Bureau

2. Application Requirements

An applicant for a certificate under the Montana Major Facility Siting Act must file a joint application with the DNRC and the DHES. Information concerning the need for the facility, the proposed location, baseline data, and alternate sites must be included in the application. Copies must be sent to a number of state agencies, including the Environmental Quality Council and the departments of Highways; Commerce; Revenue; Fish, Wildlife and Parks; State Lands; and the Department of Public Service Regulation.

Statute: 75-20-211, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.7.2101-2107

3. Permitting Procedures

A. Time Requirements

1) Each person contemplating construction of a major facility within the next ten years must submit an annual long-range plan to the DNRC. This requirement does not apply to public utilities that submit an integrated least-cost resource plan to the Public Service Commission.

2) The DNRC and the DHES must notify the applicant within 90 days

that the application is either complete or incomplete. If the application is incomplete and the applicant corrects it for resubmission, both departments then have 30 days to advise the applicant that the application is complete and accepted.

3) The DHES, within one year of the date of acceptance of a complete application, and, if a hearing is required, the board or Department of Health within an additional six months, must issue a decision on certificates, permits, etc., required under the laws administered by the Board of Health and the DHES. The DHES and the board determine compliance with all standards, permit requirements and implementation plans under their jurisdiction for the proposed location or any proposed alternate location. Those determinations are conclusive with respect to such requirements.

4) Within 22 months (or 12 months for a linear facility less than 30 miles in length) following acceptance of an application, the DNRC must report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation.

5) Executive branch state agencies receiving a copy of the application form must also report to the DNRC on the impact of the proposed facility in the agency's area of expertise.

6) Hearings by the BNRC must take place within 120 days of receipt of the DNRC's findings, after notification is published in local newspapers. The board must appoint a hearings officer, if any, within 20 days after the DNRC's report has been filed. At the request of the applicant, the Board of Health and the DHES must hold any required permit hearings in conjunction with the BNRC's certification hearing. If the Board of Health and BNRC hold separate hearings on the same certificate, the boards must mutually agree on the appointment of a hearing examiner to preside at both hearings. A pre-hearing conference, which must be held following notice within 60 days after the DNRC's report has been filed with the board, must be organized and supervised by the hearing examiner. The parties to the hearing are required to submit all direct testimony, studies, investigations, reports or other exhibits in writing for consideration by the board.

7) The hearing examiner must file a report and recommendations within 60 days after conclusion of the hearing, or in the case of a joint hearing, within 90 days.

8) The BNRC must issue its decision to grant, deny or modify the application within 60 days after submission of the recommended decision by the hearing examiner.

9) The certificate must include the requirement that construction of a generation/conversion facility begin within six years from the date of certification. Linear facilities must be completed within 10 years (five years for transmission lines 30 miles or less in length). Certificates may be reviewed.

B. Appeal of Denial

Decisions of the BNRC and the Board or Department of Health can be appealed to state district court.

Statute: 75-20-216 through 220, 301, 304, 406 and 501; MCA

4. **Fees**

The applicant for a certificate under the Montana Major Facility Siting Act is required to deposit a filing fee based on the estimated cost of the project in an earmarked revenue fund for use by the DNRC to administer the act. The DNRC may contract with the applicant for payment of the fee or the applicant shall pay the fee in installments. A fee schedule is listed in the statute.

Statute: 75-20-215, MCA

5. **Criteria**

The BNRC must issue an opinion and render a decision either granting or denying the application as filed, or granting it with conditions or modifications. This decision is based upon a number of factors, including the need for the facility; the nature of probable environmental impacts considering the state of available technology and the nature and economics of the alternatives; that the facility minimizes adverse environmental impacts compared to the alternatives; that the location of the proposed facility conforms to applicable state and local laws; that the facility will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity; that the DHES or the Board of Health have issued all necessary decisions, opinions, orders, certifications and permits; and that the use of public lands for location of the facility is evaluated and public lands are selected whenever their use is as economically practicable as the use of private lands and compatible with the environmental criteria listed in 75-20-503.

The Board of Natural Resources and Conservation must waive the requirement for alternative site studies and the finding of minimum adverse environmental impact when a facility is proposed for construction in a county that has experienced severe unemployment problems because of plant closure.

6. Additional Information

The board may not issue a certificate to construct a nuclear facility in Montana unless it meets stringent criteria specified in 75-20-1203, MCA. All nuclear facilities must be subject to a public referendum in order to be approved.

PIPELINES

Pipelines with inside diameters of at least 17 inches that are 30 miles long are regulated by the Montana Major Facility Siting Act. Aspects of other pipeline projects may be covered by statutes listed under UTILITIES (p. 145) and MAJOR FACILITY SITING (p. 41).

WATER POLLUTION DISCHARGE PERMITS

Industrial and commercial operations often require water pollution permits from the Water Quality Bureau of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. (See: WATER POLLUTION DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160)

WIND ENERGY

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any person constructing a wind energy facility must first obtain an easement from the appropriate property owner to ensure an undisturbed flow of wind across that property. If the affected property owner is the Department of State Lands (DSL), the use of that land may be subject to permits, leases or easements from the DSL and approval from the Board of Land Commissioners.

Associated activities that affect air or water quality may require permits from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Air Quality Bureau and Water Quality Bureau, (see AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28, and WATER POLLUTION:

DISCHARGE PERMITS p. 160). Activities that affect migratory bird populations are subject to the provisions of the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (see p. 76).

Wind generating facilities designed for or capable of producing 50 megawatts or more of electricity are subject to the provisions of the Montana Major Facility Siting Act, (see MAJOR FACILITY SITING, p. 41), and will require the submission of a joint application to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences describing the need for the facility, the proposed location, baseline data, and alternate sites.

Statute: 70-17-303, MCA (wind energy easement)
77-1-301, MCA (DSL easements, licenses and permits)
Montana Major Facility Siting Act, 75-20-101 et seq., MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.131 et seq. (DSL easements, licenses and permits)
ARM 36.7.101 et seq. (facility siting)

Contact: Property owner

Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Energy Division
Facility Siting Bureau

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau
Water Quality Bureau

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Office, Helena

FOOD PROCESSING AND SERVICE

DAIRIES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A license for the operation of a dairy must be obtained from the Department of Livestock. All licenses must be renewed annually by January 31 following the date of expiration (December 31). Prior to construction, remodeling or relocation of a dairy, detailed plans must be submitted to the Department of Livestock for review and approval. Also prior to construction, the appropriate permits must be obtained from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences for any discharge of wastes into ground or surface waters (see WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160) or for the release of air pollutants (see AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28). Local health agencies may investigate or sample the dairies in their area.

Statute: 81-22-201 through 209, 305 and 403; MCA

Contact: Department of Livestock
Milk and Egg Bureau

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau
Water Quality Bureau

2. Fees

The license fees for operation of a dairy range from $5 to $50.

Statute: 81-22-208, MCA

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - MEATPACKING PLANTS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

An annual license, which expires on December 31 of the year issued, is required from

the Department of Livestock for a slaughterhouse or meatpacking plant. The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences retains jurisdiction over insuring that slaughterhouses and meatpacking plants have approved water supplies, and that wastes are disposed of properly. Prior to construction, an MPDES or MGWPCS permit is needed if there is a discharge of wastes into either ground or surface waters.

Statute: 81-9-201 and 202, MCA

Contact: Department of Livestock
Animal Health Division

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

2. Fees

The annual license fee for operating a slaughterhouse or meatpacking plant is $5.

FORESTRY

BURNING PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

During the forest fire season (May 1 - September 30, or as extended), permits are required from the recognized protection agency for the area (county, state or federal) to ignite or set a forest fire, slash-burning fire, land-clearing fire, debris-burning fire or an open fire within forest lands. A permit is not required in a designated, improved campground.

Air quality permits for major burns [ones which on a state-wide basis will emit more than 500 tons per calendar year of carbon monoxide or 50 tons of any other regulated pollutant except hydrocarbons (an open burn of approximately 100 acres)] are required from the Air Quality Bureau of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. All open burners (major and minor) must comply with restrictions issued on the Ventilation Hotline (1-800-225-6779) from September through November. Open burning is allowed from March 1 to September 1 (no permit required), and prohibited from December to February.

The DHES may issue conditional air quality open burning permits for certain prohibited materials, including clean untreated wood waste at landfills and industrial sources, creosote treated railroad ties, the burning of prohibited materials for the training of firefighters, or open burning in emergency situations if certain departmental requirements set forth in ARM 16.8.1307-8 are followed.

Local authorities may require burning permits in addition to the state permit. Several counties require permits to burn anytime throughout the year for air quality and fire protection.

Statute: 7-33-2205 and 76-13-121, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1300 *et seq.*

Contact: County Sheriff or Board of Commissioners

Department of State Lands
Land Offices

Unit Offices
Forestry Division

U.S. Forest Service
Forest Supervisor

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau

2. **Fees**

The fees for open burning permits are established by rule. Check with the DHES, Air Quality Bureau.

CABIN SITES

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Leases for cabin sites on state forest lands may be obtained from the Department of State Lands, Forestry Division. Department rules govern use and maintenance of such sites.

Rule: ARM 26.6.401

Contact: Department of State Lands
Forestry Division

HAZARD REDUCTION

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Fire hazard reduction agreements and, where applicable, the posting of a bond and administrative fees with the Department of State Lands, are required before conducting any timber cutting or timber stand improvements on private lands, or right-of-way clearing on private forest lands. The DSL must be notified at least 10 days prior to any clearing for right-of-way. The DSL will issue a certificate of clearance and return the bond when the agreement for reduction of fire hazard has been executed.

Statute: 76-13-401 through 414, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.6.501-503 and 511

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Offices
Unit Offices

PORTABLE SAWMILLS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

A license from the Department of State Lands is required for any person or corporation to operate a portable sawmill on private, state or federal forest lands.

Statute: 76-13-501 through 506, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Forestry Division

2. **Application Requirements**

An applicant for a license to operate a portable sawmill must apply to the DSL in writing, stating name, location of proposed sawmill (section, township, range), capacity of sawmill, estimated amount of stumpage to be cut, and anticipated date of initial operation.

Statute: 76-13-503(l), MCA

3. **Fees**

The application for a portable sawmill license requires a $2 fee.

Statute: 76-13-503(2), MCA

4. **Criteria**

If all application information is in order, the Department of State Lands will issue a portable sawmill permit lasting as long as the mill remains in its original setting unless the sawmill violates any state forest-protection laws.

REMOVAL OF NONCOMMERCIAL OR SMALL QUANTITY TIMBER

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Permits for removal of dead or inferior timber from state forests are required from the Department of State Lands or from the Board of County Commissioners on county forests. Permits may be issued free of charge to residents of a county to use dead or inferior timber for fuel and domestic purposes. Permits also may be issued to citizens of Montana for commercial purposes at commercial rates without advertising for timber on state or county forests in quantities of less than 100,000 board feet or, in cases of emergency due to fire, insects or blow down, of less than 200,000 board feet. Farmers, ranchers and prospectors also may obtain permits for timber on state forests in quantities not to exceed 25,000 board feet for domestic purposes in the repair and development of the farm or ranch.

Both the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service issue permits for fuel wood and Christmas tree cutting on BLM lands and National Forest lands. Permits for either of these activities must be obtained for either of these activities on public lands.

Statute: 7-8-2608, 2609; 77-5-211, 212, 213, MCA

Contact: Board of County Commissioners

Department of State Lands
Forestry Division or Area Supervisor

Bureau of Land Management
District Office

U.S. Forest Service
Forest Supervisor

2. Fees

Fees for domestic-use permits on state lands are set by the Board of Land Commissioners. Check with the DSL regarding the required fees.

Statute: 77-5-213, MCA

STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

While no permit is required to conduct forest practices in streamside management zones, special management standards do apply to the area within 50 feet of a stream, lake, or other water body. The practices of broadcast burning, clearcutting, road construction, the operation of vehicles, use of hazardous or toxic materials, and the deposition of slash or sidecasting of road materials in streams are prohibited, except as provided for by alternative practices approved by DSL.

Statute: 77-5-301 through 307, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Forestry Division

TIMBER HARVESTS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Timber owners and operators must notify the Department of State Lands prior to conducting a forest practice -- including timber harvest, road construction or reconstruction, site preparation, reforestation, or management of logging slash.

Within 5 working days of receiving notification of a forest practice, the DSL must mail to the owner or operator a receipt of notification stating either that the forest practice may proceed, or requesting an on-site consultation for the purpose of providing information on best management practices.

Statute: 76-13-131 et seq., MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Forestry Division

TIMBER SALES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Timber sales on state forest lands are administered by the Department of State Lands, and final approval is granted by the Board of Land Commissioners.

2. Application Requirements

A. Timber proposed for sale in excess of 100,000 board feet must be advertised in a newspaper of the county in which the timber is located for a period of at least 30 days, during which time the DSL can receive sealed bids up to the hour of the bid closing, as specified in the notice.

B. In cases of emergency due to fire, pest or blow down, a sale of up to 1 million board-feet may be advertised for not less than 10 days.

C. Upon award of sale, the purchaser must execute a formal agreement, approved by the board, which describes the area where the timber is to be cut, the approximate quantity to be cut by species and the rate for each product of each species. The purchaser also is required to furnish a bond to the state in an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the estimated value of timber sold.

Statute: 77-5-201 *et seq.*, MCA

3. Fees

The Board of Land Commissioners establishes fees for brush disposal and timber stand improvement on state lands. Check with the DSL for the fee schedule.

Statute: 77-5-204(4), MCA

4. Additional Information

A. Lands classified as timberlands are not subject to sale, but the timber on those lands may be sold. (See STATE LANDS, p. 9)

Statute: 77-2-303, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Forestry Division

Board of Land Commissioners

B. A detailed bill of sale is required before more than five coniferous trees may be transported over state highways. Also, transportation of more than 200 pounds of boughs from coniferous trees requires written

authorization of the owner of the boughs.

Statute: 76-13-601, MCA

HIGHWAYS - TRANSPORTATION

FERRIES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Board of County Commissioners may lay out, maintain, control and manage county ferries. Ferries between two counties must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Statute: 7-14-2802, MCA

Contact: Board of County Commissioners

2. Application Requirements

Application to operate a ferry between two counties must be made to the Board of County Commissioners of the county situated on the left bank descending the affected river, creek or slough. The application must contain a description of the proposed landings, names of the owners of the landings, and notice that the application has been served at least 10 days prior to the date of application on those landowners not participating in the application. Notice of the proposed ferry must be published by the applicant in a local newspaper and posted in three public places for four consecutive weeks. A hearing is required after notice. The owner of the land on either bank of the waters to be crossed is entitled to preference in procuring authority to construct a ferry, with the owner on the left bank descending having preference over the owner on the right bank.

Statute: 7-14-2821 through 2824, MCA

HIGHWAY ADVERTISING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A permit is required from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) for placing outdoor advertising signs along the right-of-way of interstate and primary highways. Standards for maintenance of permitted advertising are outlined in the statutes and rules.

Statute: Outdoor Advertising Act, 75-15-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 18.6.201-272

Contact: Department of Transportation
Field Offices or District Offices

2. **Application Requirements**

The applicant for an outdoor advertising permit must complete a form furnished by the MDOT. The owner of the land affected must agree to the erection or maintenance of the advertising sign.

Statute: 75-15-122(1), MCA

Rule: ARM 18.6.211

3. **Fees**

The initial fee is $6. Permits are issued for three years and renewed every three years on payment of $3.

Statute: 75-15-122(1)(2), MCA

Rule: ARM 18.6.211 and 18.6.214

HIGHWAY APPROACH PERMITS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Permits are required from the Department of Transportation for the construction of driveways and other approaches intersecting public streets and highways.

Rule: ARM 18.5.104 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Transportation
Area Maintenance Bureau

2. Application Requirements

Application for an approach permit must be made by the owner or contract purchaser. These permits are only for the purpose of securing or changing access to property. A brief description of the proposed work, location and a plot plan must be included in the permit application. No more than two approaches will be approved for any single property tract or business establishment. Exceptions may be made where the frontage exceeds 500 feet or special conditions exist that may benefit the traveling public.

Rule: ARM 18.5.104, 105

3. Permitting Procedures

A. A request for a permit to construct or reconstruct any residential, commercial, industrial, public street or road approach should be made to the Chief of the Field Maintenance Bureau of the MDOT having jurisdiction over the area.

B. Upon receipt of the request, the Chief of the Field Maintenance Bureau will arrange for a meeting with the applicant in order to discuss the proposed approach.

C. Field Maintenance Bureau personnel and the Division Traffic Engineer have authority to approve curb cuts and public and private approaches.

Rule: ARM 18.5.104

HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENTS - EASEMENTS - OCCUPANCY PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Permits are issued by the Department of Transportation for construction or maintenance of encroachments on or under highway rights-of-way. (Encroachments include all private structures, devices and facilities placed upon, over or under the right-of-way. These include ditches, dikes, flumes, canals or bridges and water, sewer, electric, natural gas, communications and cable television lines.) Written permission is required from the Board of County Commissioners for any excavation or construction across county highways. Permission for easements and encroachments on or across state highway rights-of-way may be obtained from the Department of Transportation. (See STATE LANDS: Easements, p. 9)

2. **Permitting Procedures**

The appropriate permit may be obtained from one of the five MDOT district offices (see APPENDIX 2).

Statute: 7-14-2139, MCA

Rule: ARM 18.7.101-108

Contact: Board of County Commissioners

Department of Transportation
Engineering Division; or
District Offices in Billings, Butte, Glendive, Great Falls, or Missoula

See also HIGHWAY UTILITY EASEMENTS, p. 145.

ROADSIDE JUNKYARDS

See: SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, MOTOR VEHICLE WRECKING FACILITIES, p. 127.

HUNTING - FISHING - TRAPPING - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is charged with the regulation of fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife protection, and issues all hunting, trapping and fishing permits and licenses, with the exception of aerial hunting permits (Department of Livestock) and licenses for outfitters and professional guides (Department of Commerce, see both below).

The Fish and Game Commission establishes hunting and fishing seasons and restricts hunting, trapping and fishing in certain areas.

Depending on the type and location of an activity, more than one permit may be required. For example, anyone hunting on a shooting preserve must have the appropriate hunting license as well as a shooting preserve permit. Please check all sections that may apply to a proposed activity, and contact the appropriate state agency.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

AERIAL HUNTING OF PREDATORY ANIMALS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Anyone intending to conduct an aerial hunt must first obtain a permit from the Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL), with the exception of 1) those government employees acting within the scope of their employment, or 2) resident landowners hunting on their own property who have followed the notification requirements of the MDOL.

Statute: 81-7-101, 81-7-501, and 81-7-505, MCA

Contact: Department of Livestock
Predator Control Bureau

2. Application Requirements

To obtain an aerial hunting permit, an applicant must complete the required forms available from the MDOL, Predator Control Bureau.

Qualifications: Permits will be issued only to individuals resident and domiciled in Montana. Non-resident permits may be authorized if enough Montana permittees are not available. Applicants must also be currently licensed as pilots by the Federal Aviation Administration, must minimally have a private pilot's license and 200 flying hours, and the applicant and their aircraft must meet Federal Aviation Administration and Montana Aeronautics Division requirements.

Rule: ARM 32.22.102

Contact: Montana Department of Livestock
Predator Control Bureau

Montana Aeronautics Division

3. Fees

The Department of Livestock issues permits valid for a period of one to three years. Permit fees are $30 for less than one year, $40 for one to two years, and $50 for two to three years. The MDOL may also issue self-renewing multiple year permits dependant upon compliance with the rules and state law.

Rule: ARM 32.22.103

CAPTIVE BREEDING OF RAPTORS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks may grant permits for the captive breeding of raptors to a person whether or not the person is licensed as a falconer. Captive breeding permits are not transferrable and may be revoked at any time by the department for violation of conditions of the permit or regulations of the Fish and Game Commission. The Fish and Game Commission has the authority to adopt rules pertaining to the captive breeding of raptors that are at least as restrictive as federal law.

Statute: 87-5-210, MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division, or
Fish and Game Commission

2. **Application Requirements**

Persons wishing to apply for a captive breeding permit must file a written application on forms provided by the department and obtain a current federal captive breeding permit.

Rule: ARM 12.6.1401

3. **Fees**

The state fee for a captive breeding permit is $20.

Rule: ARM 12.6.1401

FUR DEALERS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Any person, firm, or corporation who engages in the buying, selling, trading or dealing of skins or pelts of fur-bearers or predators must secure a fur dealer's license from the DFWP. The license is issued annually and expires April 30 of each year.

Statute: 87-4-301, 303 and 305; MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. **Fees**

The license fee for a resident fur dealer is $10 and for a fur dealer's agent (buyer), $10. The fee for a nonresident fur dealer's license is the same as the fee charged for a nonresident fur dealer's license in the applicant's state of residence; if the nonresident's state does not issue a nonresident fur dealer's license, the fee is $50.

Statute: 87-4-304, MCA

FUR FARMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No person may own, control, or propagate furbearers for sale or conveyance, or parts thereof, unless he or she holds a current fur farm license issued by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Statute: 87-4-1002, MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Application Requirements

Any person desiring a fur farm license must submit a written application to the department which includes the name and address of the applicant, the species of furbearer and any plans to propagate them, the legal description of the land to be included, the type of fence for enclosure, and the source of the furbearers.

A fur farm license will only be issued to a responsible applicant who owns or leases the premises on which the operations are to be conducted. A nonresident fur farm owner must have a resident agent who is responsible for the daily operations of the fur farm and who is authorized by the nonresident owner to receive service of process.

Statute: 87-4-103, MCA

3. Permitting Procedures

Within 30 days of receiving the application, the department must notify the applicant of its decision to approve or deny the application. If the application is denied, the department must specify the reasons for the denial.

4. Fees

The initial fee for a fur farm license is $25, and the renewal fee is $15.

Rule: ARM 12.6.1703

GAME BIRD FARMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No person may own, control, or propagate game birds unless they hold a current game bird farm license issued by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (DFWP); with the exception of 1) anyone who has a game bird farm but who does not sell the birds or 2) for anyone who has a migratory game bird avicultural permit is exempt from.

Statute: 87-4-901 through 87-4-916, MCA.

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Application Requirements

Anyone wishing to obtain a game bird farm license must submit an application to the DFWP which includes the applicant's name and address, the species of game bird any plans for its propagation, the legal description of the proposed game bird farm location, the type of fence or enclosure, and the source of the game birds. If the applicant is a nonresident owner, then he or she must provide the name and address of a local resident agent. The resident agent must be responsible for the daily operation of the farm and be authorized by the nonresident owner to receive service of process.

A game bird farm license will only be issued to a responsible applicant who owns or leases the premises on which the operations will be conducted and who has properly fenced or otherwise enclosed the area.

3. Permitting Procedures

Within 30 days of receiving the application, the department must notify the applicant of its decision to approve or deny the permit. If the application is denied, the department must specify the reason for denial.

4. Fees

The initial fee for a game bird farm license is $25, and the renewal fee is $15.

Rule: ARM 12.6.1603

GAME FARMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any person or corporation wishing to operate a game farm must obtain a permit from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (DFWP). A game farm licensee must also comply with all applicable laws and rules administered by the Department of Livestock relating to branding, marketing, inspection, transportation and health. Permits are issued annually and expire on January 31 of each year. (See also ROADSIDE ZOOS - - POSSESSION OF WILD ANIMALS, p. 69).

Statute: 87-4-406 through 420, and 422-424, MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

Department of Livestock
Animal Health Division
Brands Enforcement Division

2. Application Requirements

An applicant for a license must provide the DFWP with: the applicant's name and address and the name and address of the game farm's principle manager; the exact legal description of the proposed game farm location together with the nature of the applicant's title to the land; the species of game animals that will be kept or propagated on the farm; the source of game animals; the type of facilities proposed and the location of the perimeter fencing; and, information demonstrating that the applicant is responsible. If the applicant for a game farm is not a Montana resident, the application must include the name and address of a Montana resident designated by the applicant as the applicant's local agent. If the applicant is a corporation, the application must include the full names and addresses of all stockholders owning more than 10% in the corporation.

3. Permitting Procedures

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has 30 days of receipt of an application for a game farm to notify the applicant in writing whether the application is in compliance and accepted as complete, or is not in compliance. If the department determines that the application is not in compliance it will list any deficiencies that must be corrected.

Within 120 days of the acceptance of the completed application, the department will notify the applicant of its proposed decision to approve, approve with stipulations, or deny the application. If the department determines that an environmental impact statement is required (see MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT, p. 105) then the department has an additional 180 days to act on the completed application.

4. Fees

The initial game farm license fee is $200, and the renewal fee is $50.

Statute: 87-4-411, MCA

OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No person may act as an outfitter or professional guide or advertise as an outfitter without first obtaining a license from the Department of Commerce, Board of Outfitters. Any outfitter utilizing public lands must obtain the proper permits from the agency responsible for the area in which the outfitter intends to operate, and must comply with the environmental protection standards established for the area.

Statute: 37-47-301, 308, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.39.501, 514

Contact: Department of Commerce
Public Safety Division
Professional and Occupational Licensing Bureau
Board of Outfitters

2. Application Requirements

A. Applicants for an outfitter's license must complete a two-part application provided by the Board of Outfitters. First, the applicant must provide information on his or her address, residence, conservation license number and other relevant personal information; the applicant's experience as an outfitter or guide; and a description of the applicant's property and professional equipment. Second, the applicant must submit an "operations plan" to determine what services he or she can provide with the equipment listed, the number of clients which can be served,

the compatibility of services with the area utilized, verification of permission to utilize public or private lands, and the requisite proof of the minimum level of liability insurance required. Outfitters utilizing lands under the control of the U.S. government must obtain the proper permits from the appropriate agency. Each applicant for an outfitter's license also must pass a standard examination administered by the board.

An applicant for a **professional guide's license**, or the professional guide's employing outfitter, must submit a completed professional guide license application provided by the board.

Applications for an **outfitter's license** shall be made in the name of an individual only. A person may submit only one application for an outfitter's license in any one license year. Licenses may not be transferred.

B. **Outfitter's Qualifications**: An outfitter must be at least 18 years old, and mentally and physically competent to perform the duties of an outfitter. The outfitter must own or hold under written lease the necessary equipment and facilities for the type of service to be provided; be a person with demonstrated respect for and compliance with the laws of any state or the United States regarding fish and game, natural resource conservation and preservation of the natural ecosystem; have not been convicted of, or forfeited bond of $100 or more on more than one violation of the fish and game laws of any state or the United States within the past five years, have not practiced fraud or misrepresentation in procuring any previous outfitter's, professional guide's, or conservation license from the state of Montana or promulgated any false or misleading advertising relating to the business of outfitting; have not been judged guilty by a court of law of any substantial breach of written or oral contract with any person utilizing the applicant's services as an outfitter or professional guide during the 2 years preceding; have not committed any negligent act or misconduct while acting as an outfitter or professional guide during the previous license year; and have not pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a felony unless civil rights have been restored pursuant to law.

In addition to these qualifications, an applicant for an outfitter's license must have three seasons of experience as an outfitter or a licensed professional guide working for a licensed outfitter in a similar service and resource area and be qualified to provide all the services and use all the equipment authorized under the license. The board may waive the experience requirement if: (a) the applicant owns an outfitting business; (b) the business has previously had an approved operations plan filed

with the board; (c) the applicant has worked with a properly licensed outfitter in operating the business owned by the applicant for 12 months or more.

C. **Professional Guide's Qualifications:** A professional guide must be at least 18 years old; mentally and physically competent to perform the prescribed duties; be endorsed and recommended by an outfitter with a valid license; must not have been convicted or forfeited $100 or more on more than one violation of the applicable outfitter and guide regulations and the fish and game laws or regulations in the state of Montana or the U.S. within the past five years; have not committed any act of gross negligence or misconduct while acting as a guide; have not pleaded guilty or been judged guilty of a felony unless civil rights have been restored pursuant to law; and must have been issued a valid wildlife conservation license.

In addition to these requirements, an applicant for a professional guide's license must have one or more seasons of experience, or have worked for the outfitter that signs the license for a period of at least six weeks and in the area to be guided sign the license, or have completed a training program licensed by the state and approved by the board.

D. A licensee in good standing is exempt from retaking the written examination, but must complete an application for license renewal and comply with the board's provisions. An application for license renewal must be submitted by January 1st of the license year.

E. On a form provided by the board and upon payment of the required fee, an outfitter may apply for amendment to his or her outfitter license. The amendment shall be approved upon a showing that the requisite qualifications to the amendment have been met.

Statute: 37-47-302 through 307, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.39.501 through 510, 8.39.514 through 515

3. Fees

Applications shall be accompanied by license and processing fees as specified by the department.

Statute: 37-1-134, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.39.518

ROADSIDE ZOOS - POSSESSION OF WILD ANIMALS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A. It is unlawful to operate a roadside menagerie or zoo (a place where one or more wild animals, birds or reptiles are kept in captivity for exhibition or attracting trade) or to buy or capture wild animals for a menagerie or zoo without a permit from the DFWP. A permit is not required for the exhibition of any animal by an educational institution or in a zoological garden chartered as a nonprofit corporation by the state, nor for animals exhibited by any traveling theatrical exhibition or circus.

B. It is unlawful to possess a wild animal (skunk, fox, raccoon or bat) except as part of a fur-bearing enterprise, zoo, or for scientific research. Animals possessed for six months prior to January 1, 1982 are exempt.

Statute: 87-4-801 through 804; 50-23-101, *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.6.1301-1309

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division (Roadside zoos)

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Health Services Division
Preventive Health Services Bureau (Possession of foxes, skunks, bats or raccoons)

2. Application Requirements

Application for a roadside menagerie or zoo permit must be completed on forms provided by the DFWP. No permit can be issued or renewed until the roadside zoo or menagerie is covered by an insurance policy to cover accidents on the premises.

Statute: 87-4-803, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.6.1308

3. Fees

The annual permit fee for five or fewer animals is $10. The annual fee for more than five animals is $25.

Statute: 87-4-803, MCA

SEINING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any person who wishes to seine or capture and sell non-game bait fish (with the exclusion of carp, goldfish and rainbow smelt) in any lake, stream or body of water must obtain a license from the DFWP.

Statute: 87-4-602, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.7.201(1)

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Fisheries Division
Regional Offices for Minnows

2. Application Requirements

The applicant for a commercial seining license must submit a form provided by the department stating his or her name and address, the waters desired for seining and the purpose for which the bait fish are being seined.

Rule: ARM 12.7.201-202

3. Fees

The fee for a commercial seining license is $10.

Rule: ARM 12.7.201(2)

4. Additional Information

Unless permitted by statute or other department authorization, bait fish may not be imported into or exported from the state of Montana for commercial or other purposes by a licensee or other person.

Rule: ARM 12.7.201(5)

SHOOTING PRESERVES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The DFWP issues operating licenses or permits for shooting preserves. All persons hunting on shooting preserves must have a valid resident or nonresident upland game bird license or a 3-day nonresident shooting preserve bird hunting stamp. Game that may be artificially propagated and hunted on a preserve is limited to pheasants, quail, chukar partridges, hungarian partridges, turkeys and other species as prescribed by the DFWP.

Statute: 87-2-404, MCA
87-4-501 through 504, 522; MCA

Rule: ARM 12.6.202

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Criteria

Each shooting preserve is restricted to not more than 1,280 contiguous acres. No preserve may be located closer than 10 miles from another preserve or in areas that will substantially reduce hunting areas available to the public. The exterior boundary of each shooting preserve must be clearly defined and posted with signs erected around the extremity at intervals of 250 feet or less.

Statute: 87-4-502, MCA

3. Additional Information

The DFWP will furnish self-locking pheasant tags to licensed shooting preserve operators for 10 cents each. All harvested game must be tagged prior to removal

from or consumption on the premises.

Statute: 87-4-525, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.6.1201

4. Fees

Fees for shooting preserve operating licenses or permits are $50 per year for the first 160 acres of shooting preserve area, plus $20 per year for each additional 160 acres.

Statute: 87-4-503, MCA

FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING LICENSES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

All persons wishing to pursue, hunt, trap, take, shoot or kill any game animal, game bird or fur-bearing animal must have a license from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Statute: 87-2-103, MCA
87-2-301 *et seq.* MCA; fishing licenses
87-2-401 *et seq.* MCA; game bird licenses
87-2-501 *et seq.* MCA; game animal licenses
87-2-601 *et seq.* MCA; trapping licenses
87-2-701 *et seq.* MCA; special licenses

Rule: ARM 12.3.101-301

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Administration and Finance Division
License Bureau

2. Application Requirements

A wildlife conservation license must first be purchased prior to obtaining any hunting, fishing or trapping license. Licenses for hunting, trapping or fishing can be obtained by completing an application form as prescribed by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks from the DFWP director, any warden, or any agent of the director. Hunting

and fishing licenses expire on the last day of February, and trapping licenses on the last day of June.

Statute: 87-2-106 and 201, MCA

3. Permitting Procedures

General hunting and fishing licenses are issued at the time of application. Special hunting licenses are issued via a random computer drawing process which takes two to three months. Applications for special licenses must be completed by June 1. Nonresident combination big game licenses are limited and are issued on a first come - first serve basis with an application deadline of March 15.

4. Criteria

All applicants are eligible if they meet residence, hunter safety instruction, and age requirements. Licenses and permits must be in the person's possession at the time of the activity.

5. Fees

Fees vary according to the type of license issued. Contact the DFWP, License Bureau.

FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Certain fishing, hunting and trapping regulations are established annually by the DFWP depending on a number of factors, including the current population of a species, climactic conditions, etc. Check with the department for the latest requirements for a specific area or species.

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

74 HUNTING - FISHING - TRAPPING - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The following items or activities are among those regulated by the DFWP.

Activity / Item	Statute / Rule
Aerial hunting	87-3-126, MCA
Big game hunting	87-3-301 through 307, MCA
Buying, selling, possessing or transporting fish or game	87-3-111, MCA
Fish hatcheries	87-3-201, MCA
Ice fishing shelters	ARM 12.6.101
Importation or introduction of wildlife	87-3-105, MCA
Importation of salmonid fish or eggs	87-3-210, 221, MCA
Number of game animals killed	87-3-103, MCA
Package labeling	87-3-114, MCA
Seining or netting fish	87-3-205, MCA
Spotlighting	87-3-101(3), MCA
Snare trapping	87-3-107, MCA
Use of dogs for hunting	87-3-124, MCA
Use of fish as bait	87-3-203, MCA
Use of explosives or poisons for fishing	87-3-206, MCA
Wasting fish or game	87-3-102, 506, MCA

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

GAME PRESERVES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

It is unlawful for any person to carry or discharge firearms, and to hunt, disturb, or threaten animals or birds within a game preserve established by the legislature or by the Fish and Game Commission. Permits to capture birds or animals, to trap fur-bearing animals or to hunt certain predators within a preserve may be granted by the director upon the payment of a fee and in accordance with rules established for the preserve by the commission.

Statute: 87-5-401-406, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.9.201-204, 206-209

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Wildlife Management Division

IMPORTATION OF FISH, FISH EGGS AND WILDLIFE

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A. It is unlawful to bring live or dead salmonid fish or eggs into Montana without written certification from the state of origin that the fish are free of diseases as specified in ARM 12.7.501 and all salmonid fish or eggs must be accompanied by a permit issued by the DFWP. The department may inspect shipments of imported fish or eggs at any point in the state to ensure compliance with these regulations. The DFWP also may impound shipments for further inspecting and testing if reasonable cause exists.

Statute: 87-3-221, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.7.501

B. It is unlawful to transfer or introduce any fish or fish eggs into any body of water or to import game birds, game or fur-bearing animals, or non-game wildlife into the state without approval from the DFWP.

Statute: 87-3-105, MCA

MIGRATORY BIRDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Laws relating to migratory birds are prescribed by the regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. Under these regulations, no person is allowed to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, or barter for any migratory bird, or the parts, nests or eggs of such birds, except under the terms of a valid permit. A list of migratory birds as established by the Fish and Wildlife Service may be found in 50 C.F.R. § 10.13.

Rule: Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 C.F.R. § 20.1 *et seq.*

Contact: U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Office, Helena

NONGAME AND ENDANGERED SPECIES - STATE

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No person may take, possess, transport, export, sell or offer for sale, and no common or contract carrier may knowingly transport or receive any species or subspecies of wildlife listed as endangered. Species currently listed are: the American peregrine falcon, the whooping crane, the gray wolf, and the black-footed ferret. Exceptions are 1) in emergency (life-threatening) situations; 2) when necessary to prevent property damage or to protect human health if a permit is first obtained from the director of the DFWP, and where possible, done by or under the supervision of an agent of the department. The director of the department may also permit the taking of endangered species for special purposes such as scientific research or for propagation in captivity.

Other nongame wildlife species not listed as endangered may also be regulated by the department.

Statute: Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act; 87-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.5.201 and 301

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Wildlife Management Division

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES - FEDERAL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act, special protection is provided to any species or its habitat if the species is listed as endangered (in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range), or threatened (likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range). The federal Endangered Species Act lists as endangered all four species protected under the Montana Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act (see previous page), and in addition also lists the bald eagle, the pallid sturgeon and the least tern. Species listed as threatened under the federal act include the grizzly bear and the piping plover.

Statute: Endangered Species Act of 1973; 16 U.S.C.A., §§ 1531-1544

Contact: U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Office, Helena

USE OF POISON BAIT ON DEPARTMENT LANDS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No 1080 baits can be placed on DFWP lands without written permission from the Fish and Game Commission.

Statute: 87-1-201 and 301, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.9.106

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Wildlife Division

WILD BIRD PERMITS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

   A. No person may hunt, capture, possess, purchase, sell or transport any nongame wild bird or part of a wild bird without a certificate or permit from the DFWP. Exceptions are 1) sparrows, crows, starlings, magpies, rock doves, blackbirds, magpies (see Note *) and other species and their eggs or nests as designated by the DFWP, and 2) parts or plumage of eagles used for religious purposes by a member of an Indian tribe when permitted by federal law. **Note *** Crows, blackbirds and magpies are protected by federal laws, see MIGRATORY BIRDS, p. 76).

   B. Licenses are required for any person to possess a raptor or to train a raptor in the practice of falconry. Certain species may not be captured in Montana for the sport of falconry: the peregrine falcon, the bald eagle and the osprey.

   C. The DFWP may grant permits for the taking and holding of raptors for commercial breeding purposes under certain specific conditions (see CAPTIVE BREEDING OF RAPTORS, p. 61).

   D. A permit is required from the DFWP to hunt, take, capture or possess a wild bird for the purposes of banding for scientific studies, salvaging birds killed in accidents, collecting abandoned birds' nests for schools and museums, and nursing sick or injured birds.

   Statute: 87-5-201 through 210, MCA

   Rule: ARM 12.6.1101-1103, 1106, 1109, 1112, 1116, 1118-1130 and 12.9.301

   Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
   Wildlife Management Division
   Law Enforcement Division

2. **Fees**

The fee for a 3-year falconry permit is $25, and for a 1-year captive breeding permit, $25.

MINING

COAL AND URANIUM MINING: MINE-SITE LOCATION PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A mine-site location permit is required prior to commencing any preparatory work (i.e., any on-site disturbances, including construction of roads, rail spurs, buildings, power lines, etc., but excluding prospecting) unless an operating permit has been granted under the Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act (see COAL AND URANIUM MINING: OPERATIONS, p. 80) The application for such a permit includes a long-range mining plan. A mine-site location permit is valid for one year and renewable until an operating permit is obtained.

Statute: Strip and Underground Mine Siting Act; 82-4-101, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division

2. Application Requirements

Any person who desires a mine-site location permit must file an application with the Department of State Lands. The application must contain a reclamation plan for any preparatory work and other information required by the DSL. The DSL may require maps showing a water drainage plan, location of all adjacent waters, buildings, roads, cemeteries, etc.; geologic cross sections; a public liability insurance policy, etc. The applicant is also required to file with the DSL a surety bond payable to the state in a sum determined by the Board of Land Commissioners. The sum may not be less than $200 or more than $10,000 for each acre of land disturbed by preparatory work, with a minimum total bond of $5,000.

Statute: 82-4-122 and 123, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1101-1129

3. Permitting Procedures

The Department of State Lands must notify the applicant of its decision within 365 days of receipt of the complete application. If the proposed site is approved, the DSL

must issue a mine-site location permit. If the location is not approved, the DSL must notify the applicant in writing, stating reasons why the location is unacceptable. The DSL must also notify the applicant within 365 days of the acceptability of the mine plan. If the plan is not acceptable, the DSL must state its reasons. It may propose modifications, delete areas or reject the entire plan.

Statute: 82-4-122, MCA

4. Fees

A fee of $50 is required for a mine-site location permit.

Statute: 82-4-123, MCA

5. Criteria

The mine-site location permit may be denied for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to: inadequate reclamation plan, adverse reclamation possibilities, exceptional topographic characteristics, biological productivity, ecological fragility, historic or geologic importance, threat of a public hazard, or designation of the land as unsuitable for mining.

Statute: 82-4-125, 227 and 228, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1141-1148

COAL AND URANIUM MINING: OPERATIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A person must obtain a permit from the Department of State Lands (DSL) prior to engaging in strip or underground mining operations. The permit must designate all lands the operator reasonably anticipates will be mined during the applicable 5-year permit period. Permits may be renewed on each 5-year permit anniversary by applying for a renewal to the DSL, at least 120 but not more than 150 days, prior to the renewal date. In order to renew a permit, the operator must be in compliance with the permit requirements and the reclamation plan. An operator must reclaim and revegetate the land affected by his or her operation as rapidly, completely and effectively as the most advanced state of the art will allow, except that underground tunnels or shafts need not be revegetated. (See also, WATER POLLUTION:

DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160; and AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28).

The Employment Relations Division of the Department of Labor and Industry enforces mine safety regulations.

Statute: Montana Coal Mining Code (Mine Safety) 50-73-101 *et seq.*, and Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act, 82-4-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 24.30.1302 and 26.4.301-1309

Contact: Department of Labor and Industry
Employment Relations Division
Safety Bureau

Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division

2. **Application Requirements**

A. Permit

A person who wishes to obtain a coal or uranium mine operating permit must complete an application furnished by the DSL that includes a complete and detailed plan for the mining, reclamation, revegetation and rehabilitation of the land and water that may be affected by the proposed operations. The application must include information regarding climate, geology, hydrology, neighboring surface waters, vegetation, etc. For mine areas containing federal coal, approximately ten copies of all applications, maps, reports and other information must be submitted. Three copies must be sent to the DSL, one to the local agency, and the remainder to the Office of Surface Mining, U.S. Department of the Interior. For mine areas not containing federal coal, three copies of all applications, maps, reports and other information must be submitted to the DSL. Each applicant for a coal mining permit must also submit, as part of the application, a certificate issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in Montana certifying that the applicant has a public liability insurance policy for the strip or underground mining and reclamation operations for which the permit is sought. In addition, prior to the issuance of a permit, the operator must file with the DSL a bond payable to the state of Montana in a sum to be determined by the Board of Land Commissioners of not less than $200 for each acre or fraction

of an acre of the land affected, with a minimum bond of $10,000. If federal coal is involved, the bond must also be made payable to the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement as surety.

B. Reclamation Plan

The reclamation plan for a coal or uranium mine must set forth in detail the manner in which the applicant intends to comply with provisions regarding grading, backfilling, water control, topsoiling, reclamation and coal conservation, as well as measures to be taken to eliminate damages to landowners and members of the public, their real and personal property, public roads, streams and all other public property from soil erosion, subsidence, landslides, water pollution and hazards dangerous to life and property. In addition, the plan must list the steps to be taken to comply with applicable air and water quality laws and rules and any applicable health and safety standards.

Statute: 82-4-222, 223 and 231, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.302 and 308

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The application for a permit or major revision of a permit, including the reclamation plan, must be submitted to the DSL, which upon a determination that the application is administratively complete, notifies various local governments, planning agencies, sewage and water treatment authorities, and water companies in the area of the proposed mining. Any person interested in the proposed mining, or any officer of a federal, state or local governmental agency may file written objections to the application within 30 days of the applicant publishing notice of the proposal in an area newspaper. If written objections are filed and an objector requests an informal conference, the DSL must hold an informal conference in the area of the proposed mining and notify all parties of the conference.

B. The DSL must notify the applicant by certified or registered mail within 120 days after receipt of the complete application regarding acceptability of the plan. If the application is not acceptable, the applicant may revise the application. The DSL then has another 120 days to render its decision concerning acceptability. The DSL may also prepare modifications to the application.

C. An acceptable application triggers public notice of the proposal. A landowner, operator or any person affected by the department's decision may, by written notice, request a hearing by the Board of Land Commissioners, and the hearing must be held within 30 days of the request. The board must issue its decision within 20 days.

D. Every reclamation plan is subject to annual review and modification.

Statute: 82-4-231, MCA

4. Fees

An application fee of $100 is required prior to issuance of a permit.

Statute: 82-4-223, MCA

5. Criteria

The permit for coal and uranium mining operations may be denied for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to: inadequate reclamation plan, adverse reclamation possibilities, exceptional topographic characteristics, proposed location on a significant alluvial valley floor, biological productivity, ecological fragility, threat of a public hazard or designation of the land as unsuitable for mining.

Statute: 82-4-227 and 228, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1141-1148

URANIUM MINING - SOLUTION EXTRACTION

1. Types of Activities Regulated

In addition to a mining permit from the Department of State Lands (see COAL AND URANIUM MINING, p. 79), permits are required from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences for uranium mining by the solution extraction (in-situ) method.

Statute: 75-5-401 through 404, 82-4-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.1101 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences

Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division

2. **Application Requirements**

The owner or operator of any proposed source discharging pollutants to ground water for purposes of in-situ mining must file a completed Montana In-Situ Mining of Uranium Control System (MIMUCS) permit application no less than 180 days prior to commencing operations. The following information is required: site definition, including an extensive topographic map of the area; plans for retention of process waters and the disposal of waste waters; plans for emergency storage, handling, treatment and disposal of leaks and spills from the waters pumped underground; a detailed monitoring program to establish baseline water quality in the production area, accompanied by maps of monitoring wells; procedures to be used to prevent leachate excursion; actions taken to confirm, determine the extent of and correct an excursion; description of well completion; various information, including a chemical description of all waste residue; proposed procedure for restoration of affected groundwater; reclamation measures, and any other information the DHES deems appropriate.

Rule: ARM 16.20.1105

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. In order to determine an applicant's capability to conduct in-situ mining, pilot testing may be required by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences after receipt of a MIMUCS permit application.

B. Upon receipt of the application and after any required pilot testing, the DHES must make a tentative determination regarding issuance or denial of the MIMUCS permit.

C. Criteria for denial are: (1) the application is inadequate or (2) degradation of state waters cannot be prevented.

D. If the tentative decision is to issue the permit, the DHES must mail the MIMUCS application to any interested person and circulate it within the geographic area.

E. The DHES must provide a period of not less than 30 days following the

public notice to allow for written public comment.

F. A request for a public hearing must be made within the 30-day period cited in E above. Public notice of any hearing on the permit application must be circulated at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

G. If no hearing is held, the DHES must make a final determination on the application no later than 180 days after receipt of the completed application. If a hearing is held, the DHES must make a final determination following review of the information presented at the hearing.

H. A permit is issued for a fixed term, not to exceed 10 years.

Rule: ARM 16.20.1106-1108, 1110, 1115

COAL AND URANIUM MINING: PROSPECTING PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A coal or uranium mine operator must obtain a prospecting permit from the Department of State Lands if the land is not already included in a current operating permit and if the prospecting is conducted for the purpose of determining the available mineral deposits. A reclamation plan and bond must be submitted. The permit is valid for one year and must be renewed.

A prospecting permit is not required for surface disturbances to determine the quantity of overburden in an area, or for gathering environmental data prior to strip- or underground-coal-mining and reclamation operations, providing the area to be disturbed is not one designated as unsuitable for coal mining (see 4. Criteria, below). However, a person who conducts these activities must file a notice on intent with the DSL that contains the information required by the department prior to beginning prospecting operations.

Statute: Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act; 82-4-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1001-1015 and 1101-1125

Contact: Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division

2. Application Requirements

A. The application for a prospecting permit must be made in writing, notarized and submitted to the DSL in duplicate on forms furnished by the department. A detailed prospecting map and a prospecting reclamation plan must accompany the application. A description of the proposed method of exploration and type of equipment to be used must be included. Prior to obtaining a prospecting permit, the applicant must file a reclamation and revegetation bond with the DSL in an amount determined by the department, based upon the estimated cost to the DSL of required reclamation and restoration work.

B. At least 120 days but not more than 150 days prior to the permit's anniversary date, the operator may submit an application for a permit renewal stating the number of holes permitted and drilled, listing surface disturbances and supplying an updated map.

Statute: 82-4-226, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1001, 1003, 1102

3. Fees

The application fee for a prospecting permit is $100.

Statute: 82-4-226(3), MCA

4. Criteria

The permit for prospecting for coal and uranium may be denied for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to, adverse reclamation possibilities, exceptional topographic characteristics, biological productivity, ecological fragility, historic or geologic importance, or threat of a public hazard.

Statute: 82-4-227 and 228, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.1141-1148

HARDROCK MINING: EXPLORATION

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Hardrock mining laws apply to ores other than oil, gas, bentonite, clay, coal, sand, gravel, phosphate rock or uranium. A state exploration license for hardrock mining and a "plan of operations" are required for any exploratory activity that causes a "material disturbance" of the surface. If the exploration is mechanized (drilling, dozing, backhoe, etc.), a license and reclamation bond are required. Hand sampling with a pick and shovel does not require state licensing or approval. State exemptions are also made for operations conducted on federal lands if the Board of Land Commissioners determines that applicable federal rules are as stringent as the state requirements.

Statute: 82-4-301 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.101 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division
Hardrock Mining Bureau

2. Application Requirements

To obtain an exploration license, the applicant must propose a specific project to the Department of State Lands, Hard Rock Mining Bureau. The DSL has available standard application forms as well as a sample plan of operations that shows the level of information required. The Department also accepts copies of Forest Service operating plans as long as a good map is provided. Once the DSL receives and reviews an exploration plan, an on-site visit is scheduled between the DSL, the applicant, and generally, a representative from the appropriate federal agency to calculate the amount of reclamation bond required for the project. The applicant must agree to post the bond, reclaim any damaged land, and not be in default of any other reclamation law. An exploration license is a statewide license, and only one is issued per individual or company. Any additional projects are considered amendments to the license, and each must be individually approved and bonded.

Statute: 82-4-331 and 332, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.102, 103 and 1101-1120

3. Permitting Procedures

On approval of the exploration plan by the Commissioner of State Lands, and after the bond is submitted, the applicant will receive a hardrock exploration license. The operator cannot legally begin explorations, however, until federal approval, if applicable, is also granted. The license is renewable annually on application and payment of renewal fee.

Rule: ARM 26.4.102

4. Fees

The fee for an exploration license is $5.

Statute: 82-4-332, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.102

HARDROCK MINING: MILLING/REPROCESSING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A person who reprocesses tailings of waste rock (with the exclusion of small miners) from a previous mining operation must obtain an operating permit before conducting operations or disturbing land in anticipation of the reprocessing operation.

Rule: ARM 26.4.160 *et seq.*

2. Application Requirements

Any person wishing to operate a mill must obtain an operating permit for each mill complex by completing an application form provided by the Department of State Lands before construction or operation of the mill or associated facilities. The applicant must: 1) indicate the proposed date for operations; 2) provide a detailed map and summary of resources of the area; 3) file a reclamation bond; 4) file an operating plan; and, 5) file reclamation, monitoring, and appropriate contingency plans. Annual reports must be submitted describing the available ore, the tailings and waste generated, water quality monitoring, and the remaining waste and tailings capacity.

Milling operations are presumed completed and are thus subject to the reclamation

time schedule outlined in the approved reclamation plan when the mill has ceased operations for a period of two years or more. A permittee may rebut this presumption by providing evidence satisfactory to the department that the operations have not been abandoned.

Rule: ARM 26.4.160 *et seq.*

3. Fees

A filing fee of $25 is required by the department unless the mill application is submitted with an associated new operating permit application.

Rule: ARM 26.4.162

HARDROCK MINING: OPERATIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A. An individual or company is required to obtain a mine operating permit prior to the commencement of mining unless excluded under the conditions of the "small miner's" exemption (see B.). A reclamation bond and a reclamation plan must be submitted. Annual reports and fees are required, and the DSL conducts annual inspections for compliance with the reclamation plan. (See AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28; CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, p. 2; MAJOR FACILITY SITING, p. 41; STREAM BEDS - STREAM BANKS - WETLANDS, p. 11; WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE AND GROUND WATER, p. 155; and, WATER POLLUTION DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160).

The Employment Relations Division of the Department of Labor and Industry enforces mine safety regulations. The Division's Safety Bureau works with the mine operator and mining contractors who must report the name of the mine, the location of the mine, the name of the company and contractors operating the mine, the type of mining activity, the date mining activity will begin and other information.

B. "Small miners" are exempt from many of the requirements of larger mining operations. A "small miner" is an operator or reprocessor who removes less than 36,500 tons of material (both ore and waste rock) annually, who does not hold an operating permit for other operations in the state, and whose operations leave no more than five acres disturbed

and unreclaimed. The small miner exclusion also applies to two operations, each less than five acres, that are at least one mile apart and are not operated simultaneously. "Disturbed land" includes all access roads except those roads required by a federal, state or local agency that are built to the agency's specifications.

The small miner must sign a small miner's exclusion statement (SMES), available at the Department of State Lands, which consists of a signed and notarized affidavit stating that he or she will stay within the requirements or conditions of the exclusion. The DSL has the authority to hold up to a $5000 reclamation bond on small placer and dredge mines. The DSL may also recover costs over the $5000 limit by filing for the additional amount in district court. Small mining operations which use cyanide are required to obtain an operating permit for only that portion of their operation where cyanide is used. The SMES Cyanide Permit requires the same kind of information as a large mine operating permit, but in less detail. A bond for the full reclamation cost is required by the DSL for that portion of the small miner's permit area where cyanide is used.

Statute: 82-4-301 *et seq.* and 50-72-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.101 *et seq.*, and 24.30.1301

Contact: Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division

Department of Labor and Industry
Employment Relations Division
Safety Bureau

2. Application Requirements

An applicant for an operating permit must submit an application for each mine complex. The application consists of several parts, including: a description of the present condition of the area, i.e., hydrology, soils, vegetation, cultural resources, wildlife, etc; an operating plan describing the type and size of the operation, equipment, etc; reclamation plans, stating the reclamation objectives and how they will be implemented; monitoring plans; contingency plans; and closure plans. Once the application is completed, the agency will evaluate the plans and will either approve or deny the permit or will approve the permit with "conditional mitigations or stipulations". If approved, a bond is then calculated based on the applicant's reclamation plan. Once the bond is submitted, the permit is granted. Other permits,

not issued by the DSL, may also be required depending on the size and location of the operation.

Statute: 82-4-335 and 338, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.107 and 1101-1120

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. Once a plan is submitted, the DSL has 60 days for an initial review and 30 days for any subsequent review of the application to determine if it is complete, i.e., if there is enough information to begin an environmental review and make an informed permit decision.

B. If incomplete, the applicant is mailed a "deficiency" or "completeness review" letter on or before the review deadline. The letter alerts the applicant to additional resource or plan information required by the Department. If it is a joint state/federal action (if permits are required by both the DSL and the USFS or BLM), a joint deficiency letter is sent which includes comments from both the state and federal agencies. During the application process, the DSL inspects the proposed site. If the site is not accessible due to extended adverse weather conditions, the DSL may extend the review period by not more than 180 days to allow for inspection of the site. If the DSL determines that additional time is needed to review the application and reclamation plan for a major operation, the department and applicant must negotiate to extend the time period by not more than 365 days.

C. There are no constraints on the amount of time an applicant has to prepare a response. Once a response is submitted, the DSL again has 30 days to review the information. This process continues until the application is deemed complete.

D. Once the application is deemed complete the department has up to 365 days to conduct an environmental analysis. This time frame may be extended only through negotiations satisfactory to the department and the applicant.

E. A permit may be appealed within 90 days of issuance.

F. The operating permit must provide that the reclamation plan may

be modified by the board after timely notice and opportunity for hearing.

Statute: 82-4-335 and 337, MCA

4. Fees

The application fee for a hardrock mining permit is $25.

Statute: 82-4-335, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.107

5. Criteria

An operating permit may be denied if (1) the plan of development, mining or reclamation conflicts with the Montana Clean Air Act (75-2-101 *et seq.*, MCA, p. 28), the Montana Water Quality Act (75-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA, p. 160), the Public Water Supply Act (75-6-101 *et seq.*, MCA, p. 129), or (2) the reclamation plan is insufficient to accomplish the proposed reclamation.

Additional criteria apply if the applicant has outstanding enforcement or reclamation objectives elsewhere.

Statute: 82-4-351, MCA

6. Additional Information

Blasting Rules

Adopted on September 30, 1990, these rules require the Department of State Lands to investigate formal complaints regarding safety and/or property damage as a result of the use of explosives by a mining operation for explorations or operations. The rules outline a specific complaint procedure that must be followed. If the preponderance of evidence gathered by the department indicates that a company or individual's blasting has damaged property or created a safety hazard off-site, the DSL shall issue an appropriate order to mitigate the situation. If the order is ignored, the DSL must then implement noncompliance procedures. The rules do not give the DSL the authority to require compensation for any damage that has occurred. The department's findings can, however, be used by the complainant to sue the operator for

property damages.

Statute: 82-4-356, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.141-143

Large Scale Developments

A. When a proposed mining project will employ more than 75 people in any consecutive six-month period in the construction or operation of the mine or associated milling facilities, the applicant must submit an economic impact plan to the affected counties and to the Hardrock Mining Impact Board. The plan must include development timetables, work-force projections, population immigration projections, and projected local government service and facility needs, costs and revenue resulting from the development. The developer must commit to pay any increased development costs to the local government and, if requested, must provide financial or other assistance to local governments to prepare for and evaluate the impact plan.

B. The affected local governments have 90 days in which to submit objections to the impact plan to the Impact Board. The board may grant one 30-day extension to the review period. If objections cannot be resolved by the developer and local governments, the Impact Board will hold a hearing. Within 60 days after the hearing, the board will issue findings and will then amend the impact plan as necessary.

C. Impact plan review is conducted concurrently with the Department of State Lands permit review. Within 30 days after receipt of the approved plan, the developer must provide a written guarantee that it will make all payments according to the schedule in the approved plan. Activities under the permit may not commence until the impact plan is approved and the permittee has provided a written guarantee to the DSL and to the Hardrock Mining Impact Board. If the plan requires prepayment of taxes, the developer must also provide a financial guarantee to the board. Under certain circumstances, as specified by statute or the plan itself, the developer or an affected county may petition the board for an amendment to the impact plan.

D. Based on periodic employee reports from mine permittees, DSL must identify permittees that become "large-scale mineral developers" after receiving an operating permit and must notify the permittee, the board and the county in which the mine is located. After providing opportunity

for public hearing, the board may require an impact plan or may issue a waiver or conditional waiver for the impact plan request. Compliance with the terms of a conditional waiver becomes a condition of the permittee's operating permit. Upon request of a local government, a waiver may be under conditions specified either by law or in the conditional waiver.

Statute: 90-6-301 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.104.202 *et seq.*

Contact: Board of County Commissioners

Department of Commerce
Local Government Assistance Division
Hardrock Mining Impact Board

LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

When surface and mineral rights are in separate ownership, the surface owner must be notified and give his or her approval in writing of the proposed operations before any prospecting, exploration or development of subsurface minerals can take place.

Statute: Landowner Notification Act; 82-2-301 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Surface Owner

MINING RIGHT-OF-WAY

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The owner of mining rights may establish a right-of-way over adjacent lands if necessary to work the claim. The right-of-way may be for roads, ditches, flumes, and other mine-related purposes. Application is made to the district court.

Statute: 82-2-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: District Court

2. Permitting Procedures

A. If the mine owner cannot obtain the agreement of adjacent landowners for right-of-way, he may file a complaint in district court requesting that a right-of-way be created.

B. After receipt of the complaint, the district judge must issue a summons to the parties requiring appearance before the court in not less than 10 days.

C. If the judge determines that the right-of-way is needed, he must award the mine owner the right-of-way and establish a commission of three persons to assess damages to the lands used as right-of-way.

D. Use of right-of-way can commence only upon payment of the assessed damages.

Statute: 82-2-203 through 208, MCA

3. Additional Information

Any party may appeal the commissioners' assessment of damages to the district court within 10 days after the report is filed.

Statute: 82-2-209 through 82-2-212, MCA

OPENCUT MINING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Opencut mining applies to bentonite, clay, scoria, phosphate rock, sand or gravel. No mining is allowed unless the miner has entered into a reclamation contract with the Board of Land Commissioners. All opencut sand and gravel operations must comply with applicable zoning regulations if the proposed mine site is in an area zoned as residential. An air quality permit for operation of any mineral crushing plant must also be obtained from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Air Quality Bureau. Exemptions may be available for operators currently holding a Reclamation Contract if those new operations will result in the removal of 1,000 cubic yards or less of mineral and overburden. Specific guidelines are required however, and a completed form provided by the department must be submitted. Operations on certain federal lands may be exempt if the board determines that federal regulations

are at least as stringent as state requirements.

The Employment Relations Division of the Department of Labor and Industry enforces mine safety regulations. The Division's Safety Bureau works with the mine operator and mining contractors who must report the name of the mine, the location of the mine, the name of the company and contractors operating the mine, the type of mining activity, the date mining activity will begin and other information.

Statute: Opencut Mining Act, 82-4-401 *et seq.*; 50-72-101 *et seq.*, MCA (mine safety); 75-2-204 and 211, MCA, (air quality)

Rule: ARM 26.4.201 *et seq.*, 24.30.1301 and 16.8.1102

Contact: Department of State Lands
Reclamation Division
Opencut Bureau

Department of Labor and Industry
Employment Relations Division
Safety Bureau

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau

2. Application Requirements

An operator must submit an application for a reclamation contract to the Department of State Lands on forms approved by the Board of Land Commissioners. Two copies of all submitted materials are required. Also required are a bond of at least $200 for each affected acre, a zoning compliance form, plans of the intended operations and other details of the mine operation. The operator also must submit a reclamation plan to the board before commencing any open cut mining. The board must approve the plan within 30 days, unless the period is extended an additional 30 days.

Statute: 82-4-432, 433 and 434; MCA

Rule: ARM 26.4.203

3. Permitting Procedures

The application form and accompanying materials (contract, bond, map(s) and

reclamation plan) are reviewed for completeness to ensure that each item is addressed correctly. An on-site evaluation is conducted to determine the mineability and reclaimability and to make sure site conditions are as specified in the application. (This may be conducted with the applicant and other interested persons.) If additions or changes are necessary, the applicant will be notified within 10 working days. If all is complete, the reclamation contract is signed by the commissioner.

4. Fees

An application fee of $50 is required for an opencut mining contract.

Statute: 82-4-432, MCA

5. Criteria

The Board of Land Commissioners will only enter into a contract with the operator if the bond, reclamation plan and other requirements of Title 82, Chapter 4, Part 4 are fulfilled. The reclamation plan must ensure that the operator will establish vegetative cover commensurate with the proposed land use, will appropriately protect ground and surface water and will remove or bury metal and other waste, among other considerations. (see also WATER, p. 150; and AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28)

Statute: 82-4-432 through 434

Rule: ARM 26.4.204

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: COAL MINING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Coal mining leases on state lands are awarded by competitive bidding at no less than fair market value. The primary term is 10 years and as long thereafter as coal is produced in commercial quantities. Rent and royalties must be paid. (See WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160)

Statute: 77-3-301, *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.301 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of State Lands

Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. **Application Requirements**

All coal leases must comply with the Strip and Underground Mine Siting Act (82-4-101 *et seq.,* MCA, p. 79) and the Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act, (82-4-201 *et seq.*, MCA, pp. 80-82). Mining operations must be systematic to the extent possible to prevent the waste of coal and to prevent more difficult or costly mining in subsequent operations. All applications for coal leases may be made at any time during the year on a form furnished by the Department of State Lands. An adequate and sufficient description of the lands sought for lease must be included.

Statute: 77-3-306, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.306

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. When sufficient applications for leases have been received, a lease sale will be announced through publication in a trade journal of general circulation in the coal mining industry or in Montana's major newspapers for four weeks preceding the sale.

B. Prior to issuing a coal mining lease, the Board of Land Commissioners must evaluate the coal and land proposed for lease in order to determine the fair market value of any coal reserves located on the land.

C. Sales of state coal leases are through competitive bidding. The Department of State Lands may require a bid deposit in any amount it may determine, up to 10 percent of the appraised value of the coal offered for lease.

Statute: 77-3-312, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.306

4. **Fees**

A. A fee of $50 is required for a lease application.

B. Rent is on a per acre basis and cannot be less than $2 per acre.

C. The lessee must pay in cash a royalty on all coal produced from the leased premises at a rate of not less than 10 percent of the coal's value.

Statute: 77-3-316, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.2.401 and 26.3.309-310

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: METALLIFEROUS MINERALS AND GEMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Board of Land Commissioners leases state lands for the purpose of mining for metalliferous minerals and gems (see HARDROCK MINING: EXPLORATION, p. 87, for definitions) Royalties must be at least five percent of the full market value of the metalliferous minerals renewed under the lease.

Statute: 77-3-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.601

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. Application Requirements

Application for a mining lease must be made on forms furnished by the Department of State Lands.

Statute: 77-3-111, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.605; For uranium and other fissionable materials, see ARM 26.3.501 *et seq.*

3. Permitting Procedures

A. Leases are issued on a first come, first serve basis.

B. When the DSL receives an application for a lease, it may advertise for written bids on the tract of land for a reasonable time in the official county newspaper of the county where the tract is located.

C. If bids are accepted, the tract will be leased to the highest bidder unless the board determines that the bid is not in the state's best interest.

D. Prior to the leasing of state lands for mining, the DSL must conduct an investigation of the lands to determine the character of the lands for mining and the amount of royalty. The department may require the applicant to pay for this investigation in a sum not to exceed $500.

E. The lease will contain provisions on prospecting and mining, royalty, etc. The board also may require payment of a bond.

Statute: 77-3-111 through 112 and 77-3-119 through 121, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.603 *et seq.*

4. **Fees**

The application fee for issuing the metalliferous mineral or gem mining lease is $50. Royalties can not be less than five percent of net and rentals are set by the Board of Land Commissioners. The rental for the first year shall be at least $1.00 per acre and may include an additional amount per acre as a bonus determined by the Board. The rental for the second and third year shall be $1.00 per acre. The rental for the fourth and fifth year shall be $2.50 per acre and the rental thereafter shall be $3.00 per acre. In no case shall the total rental for one lease be less than $100.00 per year.

Rule: ARM 26.2.601 *et seq.*

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: PROSPECTING

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Permits for prospecting for metalliferous metals (gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, platinum, iron and all other metallic minerals) or gems (sapphires, rubies and other stones known as "precious" or "semiprecious," but not including stones used in construction work) on state lands must be obtained from the Department of State Lands.

Statute: 77-3-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. Application Requirements

The applicant for a prospecting permit on state lands is required to pay the issuance fee. The permittee also must pay an annual fee during the life of the permit.

Statute: 77-3-103, MCA

3. Fees

The prospecting permit fee is set by the DSL and approved by the Board of Land Commissioners. Contact the DSL for fee information.

Statute: 77-1-302, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.2.401

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: STONE, GRAVEL AND OTHER NON-METALLIFEROUS MINERALS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Leases for the mining of nonmetallic minerals (e.g., stone, limestone, oil shale, clay, bentonite, calcite talc, mica, ceramic, asbestos, marble, diatomite, gravel and sand, phosphate, sodium, potash, sulphur, fluorite, borite or any other nonmetallic mineral, exclusive of coal, oil or gas) on state lands are issued on a royalty basis for up to a 10-year period. The lessee shall have a preferential right of renewal of a producing lease under such readjustment of terms and condition as the board may determine to be necessary in the interest of the state. Monthly reports are required. The Board of Land Commissioners may issue permits on its terms and conditions to the Department of Highways, the Board of County Commissioners or any local government for the removal and use of stone, gravel or sand from state land for the construction and maintenance of streets, bridges, highways, etc. Compliance with air quality laws is also necessary (see AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28).

Statute: 77-3-201 *et seq.*, 75-2-204, 75-2-211, 82-4-231 and 82-4-336, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.8.1102

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Air Quality Bureau

2. Application Requirements

Applications must be made on forms supplied by the Department of State Lands.

3. Permitting Procedures

See: OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: METALLIFEROUS MINERALS AND GEMS, p. 99.

4. Fees

The application fee of $15 is required for a nonmetalliferous lease. Upon issuance of the lease, an additional $25 fee is required.

Statute: 77-3-202, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.2.401

RECORDING OF MINING CLAIMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any person who discovers a vein, lode or ledge of rock on federal land bearing valuable mineral deposits and who wishes to locate a mining claim must follow these procedures:

A. Post a written notice at the point of discovery;

B. Within 30 days, mark boundaries of the site;

C. Within 60 days, comply with United States mining laws and record the location with the county clerk and recorder, who in turn must provide a copy within 20 days to the Department of State Lands. The claimant must also within 90 days, record the claim with the Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office in Billings; and

D. File an annual work report with the county, and pay rental fees or comply with small miner rental fee exemption provisions for the Bureau of Land Management.

Statute: 82-2-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: County Clerk and Recorder

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Montana State Office

MONTANA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Whenever a license or permit decision is required by statute to be preceded by a hearing, the contested case provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act apply.

Statute: 2-4-601 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 1.3.101 *et seq.*

2. Permitting Procedures

All parties must be afforded an opportunity for hearing after reasonable notice. Parties are entitled to be represented by an attorney. If formal hearing procedures are followed, the rules of discovery and evidence, right to cross-examine witnesses, rules of privilege, etc., will apply except as otherwise provided by the statute. If all parties agree, less formal procedures may be followed. A hearing officer may be appointed to make findings and recommendations to the agency decision makers. A transcript of the hearing will be made available upon request. Within 30 days after the agency's final decision, an aggrieved party may appeal the decision to district court.

Statute: 2-4-702(2)(a), MCA

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

1. Types of Activities Regulated

As outlined in the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and each agency's MEPA Administrative Rules, all agencies of the state must conduct an environmental review when making decisions or planning activities which may have an impact on the environment. In conducting the review, the agencies must utilize a systematic, interdisciplinary approach which will insure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts. Depending on the scope and significance of the project, the agency must prepare either an environmental assessment (EA), a mitigated environmental assessment (Mitigated EA) or an environmental impact statement (EIS). The environmental review process applies not only to actions initiated by the agency, but also to the issuance of state permits, licenses, certificates, or other entitlements for use or permission to act which may impact the environment.

2. Review Process

A. Environmental Assessments (EA)

A state agency must prepare an EA when it is considering an action that may impact the environment and it is unclear whether an EIS is needed, or it is clear that the impacts of the proposed action are not significant, or statutory requirements do not allow sufficient time for the agency to prepare an EIS. The level of analysis required for an EA depends on the complexity of the proposed action, the environmental sensitivity of the area, the degree of uncertainty as to whether the proposed action will have a significant impact on the environment, and the need for and complexity of mitigation required to avoid significant impacts. At a minimum, the EA must include a description of the proposed action; the benefits and purpose of the proposed action; a list of other responsible local, state, or federal agencies; an evaluation of both cumulative and secondary impacts; an analysis of reasonable alternatives -- including a no action alternative; a list of appropriate mitigation or other controls enforceable by the agency; and a finding on the need for an EIS. If an EIS is not needed, the agency must explain why an EA is sufficient.

B. Mitigated Environmental Assessment (Mitigated EA)

A state agency may, as an alternative to preparing an EIS, prepare an EA whenever the action is one that might normally require an EIS, but effects which might otherwise be deemed significant appear to be mitigable below the level of significance through design, or enforceable controls or stipulations or both imposed by the agency or other government agencies. For an EA to suffice in this instance, the agency must determine that all of the impacts of the proposed action have been accurately identified, that they will be mitigated below the level of significance, and that no significant impact is likely to occur. The agency can not consider compensation for the purpose of determining that impacts have been mitigated below the level of significance.

C. Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

A state agency must prepare an EIS whenever an EA indicates an EIS is necessary, or when the agency determines that the proposed action is a major action that will significantly affect the environment. An EIS must discuss the environmental impact of the proposed action; any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the action be taken; alternatives to the proposed action; the relationship between the short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity; and any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved if the proposed action were taken.

Prior to preparing an EIS, the agency must determine the scope of the analysis. The agency must invite affected federal, state, and local government agencies, native american tribes, the applicant, and interested persons and groups to identify the issues related to the proposed action that are likely to involve significant impacts, as well as those activities that are not likely to involve significant impacts, and to consider possible alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

The agency must then prepare a draft EIS and distribute it for public comment. Depending on the comments received, the agency may revise the draft EIS and publish a final EIS, or adopt the draft as the final EIS. The final EIS must include a summary of the major conclusion and supporting information from the draft EIS; a list of all sources of oral and written comments on the draft EIS; the agency's responses to those comments; information obtained subsequent to circulation of the draft EIS; and the agency's recommendation, preferred alternative, or

proposed decision together with an explanation of the reasons thereof.

3. Actions Excluded or Exempted from Environmental Review

The agency is not required to prepare an EA or an EIS for the following categories of action:

(a) actions that qualify for a categorical exclusion as defined by rule or justified by a programmatic review. In the rule or programmatic review, the agency shall identify any extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action requires an EA or EIS;

(b) administrative actions: routine, clerical or similar functions of a department, including but not limited to administrative procurement, contracts for consulting services, and personnel actions;

(c) minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities;

(d) investigation and enforcement: data collection, inspection of facilities or enforcement of environmental standards;

(e) ministerial actions: actions in which the agency exercises no discretion, but rather acts upon a given state of facts in a prescribed manner; and

(f) actions that are primarily social or economic in nature and that do not otherwise affect the human environment.

4. Fees

If the cost of preparing the EIS will exceed $2500, the agency may assess a fee from the applicant to pay the costs of EIS preparation. The agency must notify the applicant within 30 days after receipt of the complete application if a fee will be required. A fee schedule based on the cost of the proposed project is set forth in the statute.

Statute: 75-1-203, MCA

4. Additional Information

When a single project requires permits from two or more agencies, a lead agency will be designated to collect the EIS fee and to coordinate preparation of the document.

108 MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Statute: 75-1-101 *et seq,* MCA

Rule: Agriculture:
ARM 4.2.312 *et seq*
Fish, Wildlife and Parks:
ARM 12.2.428 *et seq*
Health and Environmental Sciences:
ARM 16.2.601 *et seq*
State Lands:
ARM 26.2.628 *et seq*
Livestock:
ARM 32.2.201 *et seq*
Natural Resources:
ARM 36.2.521 *et seq*
Transportation:
ARM 18.2.235 *et seq*

Contact: Specific Agency

Environmental Quality Council

OIL AND GAS

GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Persons planning to engage in geophysical exploration must obtain an exploration permit from the county clerk and recorder.

Statute: 82-1-101, MCA

Contact: Secretary of State

County Clerk and Recorder

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Board of Oil and Gas Conservation

2. Application Requirements

A. The applicant must file a notice of intent with the clerk and recorder of each county in which exploration will be conducted. If seismic exploration is planned, a copy on the notice of intent must also be filed with the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation (BOGC).

B. The applicant must also file a surety bond with the Secretary of State for the purpose of indemnifying property owners against damage to property.

C. When notified that the surety bond has been filed, the county clerk and recorder will issue an exploration permit valid for the calendar year in which it is issued. The county clerk then notifies the BOGC, which checks whether the applicant is in compliance with all applicable laws and rules.

D. A report must be filed with the county clerk and recorder within three months after any firing of shot points in seismic exploration. Shot holes must be plugged as specified by the BOGC unless otherwise agreed to between the surface owner and the company.

E. Before commencing operations, the person must notify any surface users of the land as to the schedule and, upon request, the location(s) of planned exploration activities.

F. Exploration crews operating in the state must comply with crew identification requirements established by the BOGC.

Statute: 82-1-101, 103 through 108, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.22.502-504

4. **Fees**

The fee for a geophysical exploration permit is $5 per calendar year.

Statute: 82-1-105, MCA

OIL AND GAS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Notices of intention to explore and to drill for oil and gas must be filed with the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation (BOGC), and drilling permits must be obtained. Prior to issuing a permit, the board must conduct an environmental assessment of the proposed drilling operation. Wells must comply with spacing units and be operated in compliance with the board's regulations and established pooling orders. Operators must also comply with the Department of Health and Environmental Science's water pollution regulations; for example, if the proposed operation will discharge fluids into surface waters, a water pollution discharge permit must be obtained (see WATER POLLUTION DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160). A public utility may apply to the board for certification of eminent domain power to maintain underground gas storage reservoirs. Waste of oil and gas is prohibited. Wells that inject waters produced with oil and gas into underground strata for purposes of disposal or enhanced recovery must receive a permit from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Underground Injection Control Program) and approval from the BOGC.

Statute: 82-11-101 *et seq.*, 82-10-305, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.22.601 *et seq.*

Contact: Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Oil and Gas Conservation Division

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Montana Office, Helena

2. **Application Requirements**

A. Notice of intention to drill must include information identifying the area where the proposed activity will occur. Logs of the activity must be kept, surface lands restored to their previous grade and productive capability, fresh water supplies protected and wells drilled, cased, operated and plugged in accordance with board rules. The public may have access to records submitted to the board. A bond must be posted to guarantee proper abandonment procedures. No exploration or development drilling may take place until a permit is issued.

B. After the permit is issued, an oil or gas operator or developer must give advance written notice of the proposed drilling operations to the surface owner of record and any purchaser under contract for deed. This notice must sufficiently disclose the plan of operation, and must be given no more than 90 days and no fewer than 10 days before the commencement of any activity on the land surface. The owner or operator of an oil or gas well on state-owned land must notify the Montana Department of State Lands in advance of any operations.

Statute: 82-10-503, 82-11-122 and 123, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.22.601

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A determination is made regarding whether the location is legal, and the plan of work, including spacing of wells and casing proposals, is reviewed. If the project complies with applicable statutes, rules and regulations, a permit is issued.

Statute: 82-11-115, MCA

4. **Fees**

Permit fees required for drilling of an oil or gas well are as follows:

A. For each well with an estimated depth of 3,500 feet or less, $25;

B. From 3,501 feet to 7,000 feet, $75;

C. 7,001 feet and deeper, $150.

Statute: 82-11-134, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.22.603

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

A seismic exploration permit must be obtained from the Department of State Lands to explore for oil and gas by geophysical methods on state-owned lands where no oil and gas lease is held. An applicant must be qualified to do business in the state, post a surety bond, and provide proof of notification to the surface owner or lessee, the name and address of the exploration firm and the legal description of the area to be explored. A $50 fee must accompany the application, and a charge of $50 per hole or $100 per mile will be assessed. DSL regulations set forth restrictions and requirements relating to surface disturbances, proximity to surface water and structures, fire prevention, operations and plugging and abandonment of shot holes. A permit is good for one year. Reports must be submitted to the DSL within six months after termination of a permit.

Statute: 77-3-402, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.204, 205, 217, 223-225 and 230-237

OPERATIONS ON STATE LANDS: OIL AND GAS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The Board of Land Commissioners is authorized to lease any state-owned lands for the purpose of oil and gas exploration or drilling and development. Corporations not

incorporated in Montana must obtain a certificate of authority to transact business in the state from the Secretary of State prior to applying for a lease.

Statute: 77-3-401, MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.205

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. **Permitting Procedures**

A. A person wishing to lease state lands for oil and gas operations must submit an application for a lease on forms furnished by the DSL.

B. Sale of oil and gas leases are normally held once each quarter (March, June, September, December). The sale of each lease takes place through competitive oral bidding.

C. Notice of each sale is published in the *Montana Oil Journal* or in one of the state's general circulation publications.

D. The primary term of an oil and gas lease may be for no more than 10 years and no less than five years unless the board deems that a shorter term is necessary. An oil and gas lease issued on state lands may not exceed 640 acres, except that any section surveyed by the United States containing more than 640 acres may be included under one lease. Leased lands must be generally compact and contiguous.

E. Owners of state oil and gas leases may enter into agreements with others for drilling and other operations. Pooling agreements are also possible. The board may approve assignment of oil and gas leases to qualified assignees.

F. The owner or operator of an oil or gas well on state-owned land must notify the DSL in advance of any operations.

Statute: 77-3-404, 405, 421, 429, 430 and 438; MCA

Rule: ARM 26.3.206 and 207

3. **Fees**

The fee required for an oil and gas lease application is $15 and $25 for a lease issuance fee. Rentals are $1.50 per acre but not less than $100 per year. Delay drilling penalty in addition to the rental is $1.25 per acre in year 6 of the lease and $2.50 per acre in years 7 through 10 of the lease. Royalties are 12.5 percent on gas and 13 percent on oil.

Rule: ARM 26.3.206, 209 and 211

OPERATIONS ON CITY, COUNTY OR SCHOOL DISTRICT LANDS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The governing body of any city, county or local school district may lease its property for oil and gas development. The term of the lease may not exceed 10 years, and royalties must be at least 12.5 percent.

Statute: 82-10-201 through 204, MCA

Contact: Local Governing Body

UNDERGROUND STORAGE OF NATURAL GAS ON STATE LANDS

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The Board of Land Commissioners is authorized to lease state lands for the underground storage of natural gas.

Statute: 77-3-501 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: Department of State Lands
Land Administration Division
Minerals Management Bureau

2. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The board may order a hearing prior to issuance of a lease. A lessee must furnish a bond to indemnify the state against damage or loss.

B. Lease terms may not exceed 20 years. The lessee has a preferential right to renewal.

3. **Criteria**

The lessee must use all reasonable precautions to prevent waste of oil or gas developed on the land, the entry of water into storage formation, or injury to oil or gas deposits.

PARKS AND RECREATION

BOATS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

All owners of motorboats -- and sailboats 12 feet long or longer -- must obtain a certificate of ownership (title) and a certificate of number (identifying the boat's registration, decal, hull, and title numbers) prior to operating the boat in state waters. Out-of-state boats used in Montana for more than 90 consecutive days must be registered at the county treasurer's office in the county where the boat will be used most often.

Statute: 23-2-508 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: County Treasurer

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Permitting Procedures

An application for a certificate of ownership must be made at the county treasurer's office on forms provided by Department of Justice. Once received, the certificate of ownership is valid as long as the person holding it owns the vessel. An application for a certificate of number (registration decal) is also made at the county treasurer's office and expires December 31 of each calendar year. Certificates of number must be renewed annually.

Statute: 23-2-508, MCA

3. Fees

The certificate of ownership fee (a one-time fee until ownership changes) is $5. The annual boat registration and decal fee is $2.50. A fee in lieu of property tax also is required, based on the vessel's length and/or age, for motorboats 10 feet in length or longer, sailboats 12 feet in length or longer, personal watercraft, motorized canoes, motorized rubber rafts, and motorized pontoons.

Statute: 23-2-508(8), 512, 516, 517; and 15-16-202, MCA

3. Additional Information

A. Boat Racing

Written permission from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is required for any person who plans to conduct a boating race, regatta, or other marine event on Montana's waters. Letters of application should be sent to the department at least 30 days before the scheduled event.

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Boating Law Enforcement

B. Noise Restrictions

Motorboats or personal watercraft that emit noise greater than 86 dbA when measured at a distance of 50 feet or emit exhaust noise in excess of 90 dbA when measured at a distance of 1 meter from the muffler at idle speed are considered a public nuisance and constitute disorderly conduct. Noise standards for certain lakes are more restrictive because of population density and heavy recreational use. Motorboats or personal watercraft operated on Flathead Lake, Echo Lake, or Swan Lake may not operate in proximity to the shoreline if the noise level is greater than 75 dbA measured at the shoreline.

Statute: 23-2-521(3), 523(9) and 526(3); MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

CAMPGROUNDS - TRAILER COURTS - WORK CAMPS - YOUTH CAMPS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Licenses from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences are required for operating campgrounds, trailer courts, work camps and youth camps and validation must be obtained from the local health officer. Acceptable plans must be submitted to the DHES and the health officer. Operators of water supply systems for trailer courts must be certified by the Board of Water and Wastewater Operators. Trailer

courts, work camps and campgrounds may also require review under the subdivision laws. (see SUBDIVISIONS, p.138; and PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY, p. 152).

Statute: 50-52-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.10.703; Trailer Courts and Tourist Campgrounds

ARM 16.10.905; Work Camps

Contact: Local Board of Health

Local City-County
Environmental Health Department

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Food and Consumer Safety Bureau

2. **Application Requirements**

Application for a license to operate a tourist campground, trailer court or camp must be made to the DHES on appropriate forms. All applicants must prepare and submit scaled layout plans of proposed facilities to the DHES and the local health authority for approval prior to beginning construction. Licenses expire on December 31 of the year issued.

Statute: 50-52-201 and 203, MCA

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The local health officer must validate the license within 15 days after issuance by the DHES. Failure to do so results in a denial of the license.

B. A refusal to validate by the local health officer may be appealed to the local Board of Health within 30 days.

Statute: 50-52-208 and 209, MCA

4. **Fees**

Beginning January 1, 1992, the fee for an annual license is $40. A late fee penalty

of $25 may be assessed for failure to renew a license prior to its expiration date.

Statute: 50-52-202, MCA

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

No off-highway vehicle may be operated on public lands, trails, easements, lakes, rivers or streams unless a certificate of ownership and a registration decal have first been obtained from the county treasurer's office.

Any off-highway vehicle owned by a nonresident that is not registered in another state may not be operated in Montana without a nonresident temporary-use permit.

Statute: 23-2-801 *et seq.*

Contact: County Treasurer

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Permitting Procedures

Application for a certificate of ownership and registration decal must be made to the county in which the owner resides. Once received, the certificate of ownership is valid as long as the person holding it owns the vehicle. Registration decals expire on December 31 of the year of issuance and must be renewed annually.

Nonresident temporary-use permit applications are available at locations prescribed by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and are valid for a consecutive 30 day period.

Statute: 23-2-811(2) and 817(2), MCA

3. Fees

The one-time fee for a certificate of ownership is $4; the annual registration fee is $2, the annual decal fee is $5; and the fee in lieu of tax is $19 for vehicles less than 3 years old and $9 for all others. The fee for a nonresident temporary-use permit is $5.

Statute: 23-2-803, 804(3), 811(7), 814 and 817; MCA

Contact: Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

SNOWMOBILES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Before operating a snowmobile on public lands, trails, easements, lakes, rivers, streams, roadways or shoulders of roadways, streets, or highways, the owner must obtain a certificate of ownership and registration decal which must be displayed in a conspicuous place on the cowl of the vehicle.

Nonresidents who own and wish to operate an out-of-state snowmobile in Montana are not subject to the certificate of ownership and registration requirements, but must obtain a nonresident temporary-use permit prior to operation.

Statute: 23-2-601 *et seq.*, MCA

Contact: County Treasurer

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Law Enforcement Division

2. Permitting Procedures

Application for a certificate of ownership and registration decal must be made to the county in which the owner resides. Registration decals expire on June 30 of the year of issuance and must be renewed annually.

Nonresident temporary-use permit applications are available at locations prescribed by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and are valid for a consecutive 30 day period.

Statute: 23-2-611, MCA

3. Fees

The application fee for a certificate of ownership is $5 and for the registration decal, $5. The annual fee in lieu of property tax is $22 for vehicles less than four years old

and $15 for all others. Proof of payment of registration decal fees and the annual fee in lieu of property tax is required to obtain registration decals. The non-resident temporary use permit fee is $6.

Statute: 23-2-611(8), 23-2-615 through 616, MCA

4. **Additional Information**

A. Exemptions

A certificate of ownership is not required for a snowmobile purchased prior to April 16, 1993, if the use of the snowmobile is restricted to private land.

B. Noise Restrictions

Snowmobiles must be equipped at all times with noise-suppression devices, including an exhaust muffler in good working order. In addition, the following noise levels, measured at a distance of 50 feet, may not be exceeded:

1) 82 dB(A) for machines manufactured after June 30, 1972, but prior to June 30, 1975, and

2) 78 dB(A) for machines manufactured after June 30, 1975.

The noise restrictions do not apply to snowmobile races or competitive events held on private lands or to such events held on public lands provided consent from the appropriate government unit is obtained and the total sound produced does not exceed 50 dB(A) at any point 50 feet or more outside the area under the control of the sponsoring entity.

Statute: 23-2-634, MCA

Rule: ARM 12.6.602

STATE PARKS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Permits are required for day-use or overnight camping in most state parks. In addition, the DFWP regulates certain park activities, for example, the number of vehicles per camp-site and the areas where campfires may be burned.

2. Fees

Permit fees vary by area and are paid at the park entrance. Annual park passports are available from the DFWP.

SOLID WASTE - HAZARDOUS WASTE

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A waste meets the definition of hazardous waste if it is included in an EPA list of specific hazardous wastes, demonstrates any of the characteristics of ignitability, corrosiveness, reactivity or toxicity under standard test procedures, or is a mixture of any waste and one or more listed hazardous wastes. All hazardous wastes may only be transmitted, stored, treated or disposed of in a manner consistent with state and federal law. Hazardous wastes must be properly contained and labeled. A permit from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences is required to construct or operate a hazardous waste management facility. Persons who transport hazardous wastes are required to notify the DHES and to obtain an identification number. Persons who generate hazardous waste (with certain exceptions) are required to maintain an annual generator registration and to pay a registration fee each year, in addition to obtaining an identification number. Substances regulated by the Department of State Lands under the Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act (see p. 80) are exempt.

Statute: Montana Hazardous Waste and Underground Storage Tank Act, 75-10-401 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.44.101 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Hazardous Waste Management Program

2. Application Requirements

Any person who wishes to construct or operate a hazardous waste management facility must apply to the DHES for a permit on forms provided by the department. An application must contain, at a minimum, the applicant's name and business address, the location of the proposed facility, a plan of operation and maintenance, and a description of pertinent site characteristics. A permit may be issued for a period specified by the DHES, and is subject to either renewal or revocation depending on compliance with the permit's provisions. The DHES may assess fees for reviewing a permit application or for modifying or reissuing permits.

Statute: 75-10-405 and 406, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.44.105 and 106

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The DHES may, in the event of an imminent and substantial danger to public health or the environment, issue a temporary emergency permit to any person for treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous waste or to any facility to handle hazardous waste not covered by the existing facility permit. Such emergency permits may be oral or written, may not exceed 90 days in duration and may be terminated by the DHES at any time prior to 90 days.

B. The DHES may grant permits to hazardous waste management facilities if the owner or operator already holds a license or permit from the DHES pursuant to other state environmental statutes, or for an interim period, until final administrative action on a permit application is made.

C. If it is determined that an application for a certificate under the Montana Major Facility Siting Act (Title 75, Chapter 20) will result in the generation, transportation, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes, the DHES must conduct its review concurrently with the studies of air and water quality conducted under the provisions of the Montana Major Facility Siting Act. A decision to grant or deny a permit for the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes is appealable concurrently with and subject to the same procedures established for the appeal of the DHES's air and water quality certification decision under the Montana Major Facility Siting Act. (See MAJOR FACILITY SITING, p. 41)

Statute: 75-10-406 and 407, MCA

4. **Additional Information**

A. Generators/Transporters

Generators and transporters of hazardous waste must comply with state and federal reporting requirements, including a manifest system for tracking the movement of all hazardous wastes. Transporters who plan to construct and operate a commercial hazardous waste transfer facility

must conduct a public hearing in the nearest community to provide information and respond to questions on the proposed facility. A transfer facility must also comply with regulations established by the DHES.

Rule: ARM 16.44.401 *et seq.*, 16.44.501 *et seq.*

B. Variances

A person who is a generator or transporter of hazardous wastes or who owns or operates a hazardous waste management facility may apply to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences for a variance or partial variance from the application of or compliance with any requirement of the Montana Hazardous Waste and Underground Storage Tank Act or any rule adopted under it. The board may grant a variance or partial variance if it finds that (1) the applicant's actions or proposed actions regarding generation, transportation, treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes do not constitute a danger to public health or safety or cause substantially adverse environmental effects and (2) the application of or compliance with the requirement or rule would produce unreasonable hardship to the applicant without equal or greater benefits to the public.

Statute: 75-10-408, MCA

INCINERATORS - HAZARDOUS WASTE/BOILERS AND INDUSTRIAL FURNACES (See also HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL, p. 123.)

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A permit is required for any boiler and industrial furnace that burns hazardous waste or for any hazardous waste incinerator. The owner or operator must submit an application to the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (DHES), Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau prior to construction or operation. In addition, the applicant must obtain an air quality permit, or if applicable an air quality permit modification, from the DHES, Air Quality Bureau (see AIR QUALITY PERMITS, p. 28).

Statute: 75-10-401 *et seq.*

Rule: ARM 16.44.701 *et seq.*; hazardous waste incinerators
ARM 16.44.1101 *et seq.*; BIFs

40 C.F.R. § 264, subpart O; hazardous waste .incinerators
40 C.F.R. § 266, subpart H; BIFs

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Hazardous Waste Program

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Montana Office, Helena

2. **Application Requirements**

The permit application is divided into 2 parts, A and B. Part A is a short standard form calling for general information which includes, for example, the name of the applicant and a description of the activities of the facility.

Part B makes up the bulk of the RCRA (federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) permit application and contains specific technical information outlining how the facility proposes to meet the relevant regulatory requirements. This part of the application requires the owner or operator to provide information on the nature of the facility and its location; the scope of the operation; the waste analysis plan; security procedures; an inspection schedule; a contingency plan; personnel training; closure and post-closure care; insurance and financial guarantees and other items as determined by state and federal law.

The DHES will establish permit conditions in order that the facility will meet the operating conditions and performance standards of the applicable regulations. In addition, Part B must contain the "trial burn plan" describing the engineering details of the system and outlining a plan for demonstrating compliance with performance standards, and for establishing limits on certain operating conditions that will become part of the facility's permit.

Rule: ARM 16.44.119, 16.44.120, 16.44.123 and 16.44.1103(4)

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The applicant must submit parts A and B of the application to the DHES, Hazardous Waste Program.

B. The department conducts a completeness review of the application to

determine that all required information and documents have been included in the application. If the application is incomplete, the agency issues a Notice of Deficiency (NOD). When the applicant has submitted all the required information and documentation, the DHES will issue a notice of completeness.

C. The DHES then conducts a technical review, analyzing the technical information submitted in the application to determine whether the facility will meet the appropriate requirements. Additional NODs may be issued.

D. The DHES will then issue a draft permit or a notice of denial.

E. Public notice is given and a public hearing is held.

F. The DHES then makes a final decision and issues a final permit. The department must respond to public comments on the final permit and must indicate where changes to the draft permit have been made.

G. If applicable, appeals are made. The facility owner/operator may challenge the denial of a permit or a condition of a permit.

4. Fees

Statute: 75-10-405(j), MCA
See 75-10-432 and 433, MCA for a schedule of fees.

MOTOR VEHICLE WRECKING FACILITIES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

An annual license from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences is required to operate a motor vehicle wrecking facility with four or more vehicles. Possession at a single location of four or more junk vehicles is prima facie evidence that the possessor is operating a motor vehicle wrecking facility.

Statute: 75-10-502 and 511, MCA

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal Program

2. **Application Requirements**

An application for a license to operate or maintain a motor vehicle wrecking facility or a local junk vehicle program can be obtained from the DHES, and must include certification from the appropriate local government officials that the proposed facility does not violate local zoning ordinances (see ZONING, p. 27). Such facilities must be properly shielded from view. The license expires on December 31 of the year issued. A motor vehicle wrecking facility must keep a record of every junk vehicle obtained, and must mail a quarterly report to Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division with the required information.

Statute: 75-10-504, 511 through 513, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.201 and 202

Contact: Department of Justice
Motor Vehicle Division
Registrar's Bureau

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. The DHES may deny, suspend or revoke a motor vehicle wrecking facility's license for reasons of theft, forgery, omission, fraud or rule violation.

B. The DHES's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a license may be appealed to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences within 30 days of the decision.

Statute: 75-10-514 and 515, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.201 and 204

4. **Fees**

The DHES requires an annual fee of $50 for a wrecking facility license.

Statute: 75-10-511 and 513, MCA

RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Disposal of "large quantity" radioactive material, byproduct material and special nuclear material is prohibited in Montana. The prohibition includes nuclear fuels, nuclear power plant wastes, and uranium or thorium mill tailings. Certain special use materials (educational, scientific, research, medical, etc.) are exempt from this prohibition.

Statute: Montana Nuclear Regulation Act, 75-3-101 and 302, MCA

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL (NON-HAZARDOUS)

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A license is required from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau for the disposal of solid waste and for the operation of a solid waste management system. [Excluded from this licensing requirement are the on-site disposal of solid wastes from a person's household or farm and certain categories of on-site industrial waste disposal operations.] Sites are approved and licensed by the DHES and validated by local health officials. "Solid waste" means all putrescible and nonputrescible wastes, including but not limited to garbage, rubbish, refuse, ashes, sludge from sewage treatment plants, water supply treatment plants or air pollution control facilities; construction and demolition wastes; dead animals; discarded home and industrial appliances; and wood products or byproducts and inert materials. It does not mean municipal sewage, industrial wastewater effluents, mining wastes regulated by the Department of State Lands, slash and forest debris regulated by the Department of State Lands or marketable wood byproducts.

Megalandfills (defined as landfills that receive more than 200,000 tons of solid wastes per year or monofills that receive more than 35,000 tons of either fly ash or bottom ash per year) are subject to additional siting and licensing controls. [An existing solid waste landfill facility that accepted 100,000 tons a year of solid waste as of December 31, 1991, is not considered a megalandfill or facility until it accepts more than 300,000 tons a year of solid waste]. The Board of Health and Environmental Sciences must issue a certificate of site suitability before a megalandfill may be constructed. Social, environmental and economic impacts of the proposed landfill

must be considered in the review process. The DHES's licensing process and the BHES's certification process must proceed concurrently and in a coordinated fashion.

Statute: Solid Waste Management Act, 75-10-201 *et seq.*, MCA
Megalandfill Siting Act, 75-10-901 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.501 *et seq.*

Contact: Local Health Officer

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Solid Waste Management Program

2. **Application Requirements**

A person who wishes to apply for a license to conduct solid waste disposal or to operate a solid waste management system must submit an application for the license to the DHES on forms furnished by the department. The application must include the applicant's name and business address, location of the proposed facility, plan of operation and other information as requested.

Statute: 75-10-221(2) and (3), MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.508, 509

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. Time Requirements: The DHES will notify the applicant if additional information is required. If the additional information is not received within 90 days, the application must be resubmitted. The DHES must notify the local health officer within 15 days of receipt of the completed application.

B. An environmental assessment (EA) is conducted during the solid waste application review process. If indicated by the EA, an environmental impact statement (EIS) may be required.

C. Public Notification, Hearings, Appeal of Denial

1) The DHES must send one copy of its proposed decision to the

applicant and three copies to the local health officer for public posting.

2) Publication of the proposed decision is required in local newspapers.

3) The public has 30 days to submit written comments.

4) The DHES notifies the local health officer of the final decision after the 30-day comment period. The local health officer then has 15 days to validate or refute the decision.

5) If either the DHES or the local health officer denies the application for a license, the applicant has 30 days to appeal the decision.

Statute: 75-10-222 through 224, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.511, 514

4. Fees

The department charges a license application fee for any new solid waste management facility or for a substantial change to an existing facility. The department also charges an annual license renewal fee to cover the costs of annual renewals and inspections. Disposal facilities pay an annual per-ton fee on wastes received by the facility. This disposal fee is set at 31 cents per ton for in state waste, and an additional 28 cents for out-of-state waste. All fees are deposited into an earmarked revenue account and are used to support a portion of the costs of the DHES's solid waste program.

Statute: 75-10-115 and 118, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.406 and 408

5. Additional Information

A. Variances

Any person may apply to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences for a variance from the rules issued pursuant to the Solid Waste Management Act. The board may grant a variance if it finds that (1) failure to comply with the rules does not result in a danger to public

health or safety, or (2) compliance with the rules would produce hardship to the applicant without producing benefits to the public health and safety that outweigh the hardship.

Statute: 75-10-206, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.602-608

B. Cesspools, Septic Tanks and Privies

Persons engaged in the business of cleaning cesspools, septic tanks, or privies and the disposal of septage therefrom must be licensed by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Food and Consumer Safety Bureau. An exclusion is made for the owner or lessee of a property disposing of septage on his or her own land as long as it does not create a nuisance, a public health hazard, or contaminate state waters (see SEPTIC TANKS, CESSPOOLS AND PRIVIES, p. 153).

Statute: 37-41-101, 105; MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.808

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Food and Consumer Safety Bureau

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

All owners and operators of underground storage tanks (USTs) must file notice of the existence of each of their tanks with the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau. The USTs must also be registered annually with the department, and the appropriate fees paid. Permits are required from the DHES for tank or piping installations, modifications, repairs or closures. In addition, tank operations must comply with State Fire Codes. (See also TANK INSTALLERS AND INSPECTORS, p. 136).

Statute: Montana Hazardous Waste and Underground Storage Tank Act; 75-10-401 *et seq.*, MCA

42 U.S.C. §§ 6901-6987, Federal Resource Conservation and

Recovery Act

Rule: ARM 16.45.101A *et seq.*, 16.45.1214

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Underground Storage Tank Section

State Fire Marshall

2. **Application Requirements**

Permit applications for tank or piping installations, modifications or closures must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the beginning of these operations. In the event of an emergency requiring immediate UST system work, the DHES may issue an emergency permit.

Rule: ARM 16.45.1214 and 16.45.1217

TANK OWNERS AND OPERATORS

Unlike its federal counterpart, Montana's definition of "underground storage tank" includes farm and residential tanks with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less used to store motor fuel for non-commercial purposes, tanks used to store heating oil for on-premise consumption, and underground piping attached to aboveground tanks regardless of the volume the piping contains. Generally, Montana's tank operation and management regulations closely parallel the federal U.S. EPA regulations with the exception that the smaller capacity farm and residential motor fuel and heating oil tanks are regulated less stringently to make it easier for farmers and homeowners to comply.

A. Tanks With Greater than 1,100 Gallons Capacity

1) Tank installation and operating requirements:

Several requirements must be met when installing a UST with greater than 1,100 gallons capacity. A permit is required from the department prior to installation. The UST must either be installed by a licensed installer, or if the operation is conducted by the owner or operator, then the work must be inspected by a licensed inspector. The owner must

certify that the tank and piping are properly installed according to industry codes, that the tank and piping are protected from corrosion, that the system is equipped with leak detection and monitoring equipment that will detect a leak within a thirty day period, and that the tank is equipped with devices that prevent spills and overfills. Any inspector, installer, owner or operator must notify the department of a suspected or actual leak within 24 hours of discovery. The owner or operator must submit proof of financial responsibility guaranteeing that cleanup costs can be paid should a tank leak occur. (See Additional Information: PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE CLEANUP FUND, p. 136).

2) Tank Closure:

A permit is required from the DHES prior to initiating the closure of an UST system. The system must either be removed by a licensed UST remover, or if the operation is conducted by the owner or operator, then the work must be inspected by a licensed inspector. An environmental site assessment must be conducted which includes the collection and analysis of soil samples to evaluate the condition of the site after tank closure or removal.

Rule: ARM 16.45.701-705 and 16.45.1201

B. Tanks With 1,100 Gallons or Less Capacity

1) Types of tanks regulated:

The regulations for this category of UST's apply to the following systems with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less: farm and residential tanks used for the storage of motor fuels for noncommercial purposes; heating oil tanks for consumptive use on the premises where stored; and, underground lines connected to aboveground storage tanks.

2) Installation and operating requirements:

Owners of these classes of small noncommercial tanks are required to install properly designed corrosion protected tanks and piping, conduct a yearly leak detection test of their tank, maintain a record of the last test, and file notification of any suspected or actual leak with the department within 24 hours of discovery.

3) Tank Closure:

A permit is required prior to initiating the closure of an UST system. The system must either be removed by a licensed UST remover, or if the operation is conducted by the owner or operator, then the work must be inspected by a licensed inspector. An environmental site assessment must be conducted which includes the collection and analysis of soil samples to evaluate the condition of the site after tank closure or removal.

Rule: ARM 16.45.701-705

3. Fees

The annual registration fee for a tank with a capacity greater than 1,100 gallons is $50, and $20 for tanks with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less.

A permit application review fee for farm, residential and heating oil tanks with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less is $35. The review fee for all other underground storage tanks is $50 plus $.005 per gallon of tank capacity. The permit review fee for piping work only is $25 per 50 feet, (with a minimum fee of $25 and a maximum fee of $100). The permit review fee for only modifications and repairs is $35. The maximum permit application review fee for installations, closures, or both at one facility or location is $500 per permit.

If the UST owner chooses to conduct his or her own work without a licensed installer or remover, the work must be inspected by a licensed inspector and an inspection fee is charged.

Rule: ARM 16.45.1001 and 16.45.1219-20

4. Variances

Any person may apply for a variance from any requirement or procedure of the underground storage tank program by requesting the approval of an alternative from the DHES.

Rule: ARM 16.45.105

5. Additional Information

Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund:

The state has established a Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund to financially assist owners and operators with the cleanup and damages caused by an accidental tank release. Owners and operators are eligible for reimbursement for eligible costs if:

1) the release was discovered on or after April 13, 1989;

2) the department is notified of the release in the manner and within the time provided by law or rule;

3) the department has been notified of the existence of the tank in the manner required by the department rule or has waived the requirement for notification;

4) the release was accidental; and

5) with the exception of the release, the operation and management of the tank complied with applicable federal laws and rules when the release occurred and remained in compliance following detection of the release.

If money is available in the fund, and if the owner or operator is eligible, the fund pays 50% of the first $35,000 of eligible costs and 100% of subsequent eligible costs with a maximum reimbursement of $982,500 for tanks of 1,100 gallons capacity or more. The fund reimburses an owner or operator 50% of the first $10,000 of eligible costs and 100% of subsequent eligible costs with a maximum reimbursement of $495,000 for a tank storing heating oil for use on the premises where it is stored, or a farm or residential tank with a capacity of 1,100 gallons or less that is used for storing motor fuel for noncommercial purposes.

Statute: 75-11-301 through 313, MCA

TANK INSTALLERS AND INSPECTORS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Those who install or close underground storage tanks in exchange for something of value or as a business must have a valid installers license issued by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau. Any

person inspecting UST systems must also be licensed by the department.

Statute: Montana Underground Storage Tank Installer Licensing and Permitting Act; 75-11-201 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.45.1201 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Underground Storage Tank Section

2. **Application Requirements**

All applicants for an installers license must be at least 18 years of age, submit a license application on a form provided by the DHES, meet the requirements determined by the department, pass the licensing examination, and pay the required fee.

Statute: 75-11-210, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.45.1204-1210

3. **Fees**

The installer's license application and examination fee is $50 and the annual renewal fee is $25.

Rule: ARM 16.45.121

SUBDIVISIONS

SALE OF SUBDIVIDED LAND

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Subdivisions of five or more parcels, of which one parcel is less than five acres in size, that are to be offered for sale outside of Montana, must be registered with the Board of Realty Regulation. A notice of intention must be filed and annual reports are required. In addition, if the subdivision involves 50 or more lots, not all of which are five or more acres, the developer must register the subdivision with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Statute: 76-4-1101 *et seq.*, MCA
Interstate Land Sales Act, 15 USC 1701 *et seq.*

Rule: ARM 40.56.410

Contact: Department of Commerce
Professional and Occupational Licensing Bureau
Board of Realty Regulation

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Interstate Land Sales

2. Application Requirements

A. Prior to the time when subdivided lands are to be offered for sale or lease outside Montana, the owner, his or her agent, or the subdivider must notify the board in writing of his or her intention to sell or lease. The notice of intention must contain the following information:

1) the name and address of the owner;

2) the name and address of the subdivider;

3) the legal description and area of lands, together with a map showing the layout proposed and relation to existing streets or roads;

4) a true statement of the conditions of the title to the land, particularly including all encumbrances thereon;

5) a true statement of the terms and conditions on which it is intended to dispose of the land, together with copies of any and all forms of conveyance intended to be used;

6) a true statement of the provision for legal access, sewage disposal and public utilities in the proposed subdivision, including water, electricity, gas and telephone facilities;

7) copies of any advertising, information, promotion brochures or similar material depicting the property that might cause or tend to induce purchase of the property or an interest therein; and

8) other information as the owner, his or her agent, or the subdivider may desire to submit.

B. The board may investigate any subdivision being offered for sale or lease.

C. It is unlawful for any person to incorporate in any advertising material or use for any advertising purposes the board's results or findings.

Statute: 76-4-1104, 1109 and 1114, MCA

3. Fees

A. A filing fee of $50 is required to file a notice of intention.

B. If the Board of Realty Regulation requires additional information on the proposed sale, the corresponding questionnaire requires a filing fee of $100.

Statute: 76-4-1105 and 1107, MCA

SANITATION IN SUBDIVISIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Condominiums, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks and all divisions of land which create a parcel of less than 20 acres are subject to sanitary review. A subdivision plat cannot be filed with the county clerk, nor can structures be built or occupied until sanitary restrictions relating to water supply, sewage and solid waste disposal are lifted by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. Review of minor subdivisions of five or fewer parcels can be delegated to local officials. Subdivisions within master planning areas and for which municipal water and waste disposal services will be provided are not subject to sanitary restrictions.

Statute: Sanitation in Subdivisions Act, 76-4-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.16.101 *et seq.*; local regulations

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

Local government

2. Application Requirements

An applicant who wishes to subdivide land must either complete the joint subdivision application form (generally for major subdivisions) for review by local and Department of Health officials or submit an ES91S application form for minor subdivisions which may be exempt from local planning review. A preliminary plat or final plat, maps showing proposed public water and sewage systems, an environmental assessment, and a subdivision approval statement from the local health officer are also required.

Statute: 76-3-504, 603, 76-4-104 and 125, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.16.102-104

3. Permitting Procedures

A. Upon receipt of a subdivision application, the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences has 60 days for final action. If an environmental impact statement is required, final action must be taken within 120 days. (See MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT, p. 105)

B. The DHES may enter into agreements with local governments regarding review of water supply, sewage and solid waste disposal facilities for subdivisions of five or fewer parcels. Local government officials have 50 days to recommend action on the application to the DHES. The DHES then has 10 days to take final action.

Rule: ARM 16.16.105 and 108

4. Criteria

The DHES's rules set standards and procedures relating to size of lots, topography, geology, hydrology, type of facilities proposed and other factors affecting public health and the quality of water for uses relating to agriculture, industry, recreation and wildlife. There must be adequate water supply, drainage, sewage and solid waste disposal systems. The DHES will issue a certificate of approval when it is satisfied that water pollution will not occur, the water supply is of adequate quantity and acceptable quality and solid waste disposal is in accordance with state laws and regulations.

Rule: ARM 16.16.302 *et seq.*

5. Fees

A schedule of fees, depending on the complexity of the project, is set out in the rules. Contact the DHES for fee limits.

Statute: 76-4-105, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.16.801 *et seq.*

6. Additional Information

If there is a denial of approval of subdivision plans and specifications which relate to environmental health facilities, the aggrieved developer may request a hearing before the board of the reviewing authority.

Statute: 76-4-126, MCA

SUBDIVISION AND PLATTING ACT

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A. All divisions of land that create a parcel less than 160 acres in size must be surveyed and platted in accordance with the Montana Subdivision and Platting Act and rules adopted pursuant to the act.

B. Exemptions - Subdivision review requirements and surveying and filing requirements do not apply to divisions resulting from court orders; mortgages; severance of oil, gas or water interests from surface ownership; creation of cemetery lots; reservation of a life estate; or lease or rental for farming and agricultural purposes. With certain exceptions, the following parcels must be surveyed and filed as a certificate of survey, but are not subject to subdivision review: divisions resulting from relocation of common boundaries; a single gift or sale to an immediate family member; and sales which include a covenant running with the land that provides exclusively for agricultural use of the land.

No transfer of title may be filed until a required certificate of survey or subdivision plat has been filed with the county clerk and recorder and duly referenced on the document of transfer. Condominiums and subdivisions for rent or lease must be reviewed but are not required to be surveyed and filed.

C. Evasion Criteria - The legal interpretation of the exemptions, mentioned above, is complex. Many binding legal opinions have been rendered regarding the proper use of the exemptions. Also, the Attorney General and the courts have approved local government "evasion criteria." Evasion criteria may be adopted by a local government as a method to ensure that each proposed exemption does not represent an intent to evade the Subdivision Act. The law on evasion criteria is not always explicit and continues to evolve. Questions concerning exemptions and evasion criteria should be directed to the local government jurisdiction.

Statute: 76-3-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 8.94.3001 *et seq.*

Contact: Local Government
Clerk and Recorder
Planning Department
Health Department

Local Planning Board

Department of Commerce
Local Government Assistance Division
Community Development Bureau

2. Permitting Procedures

A. General Information The procedure varies slightly, depending upon the size of the proposal and whether or not the local government has a planning board. For those with boards, the review may be two-tiered -- the initial review is by the planning board, which acts as an advisory body, with the final decision made by the governing body. For those without boards, the governing body is the single reviewing entity. In most jurisdictions, a "subdivision administrator" (planner or sanitarian) will be the developer's initial contact person and liaison.

B. An environmental assessment prepared by the developer must accompany the preliminary plat for major subdivisions. The assessment must contain a description of hydrology, topography, vegetation, wildlife, and soils within the proposed subdivision and a community impact report describing the demands the development will make on local services (fire, police, roads, etc.). The assessment does not apply to minor subdivisions (five or fewer parcels in which no land is dedicated to the public for parks or playgrounds), and may be waived under certain other circumstances.

C. The government, after notice and a public hearing, makes its final decision within 60 days of receipt of the preliminary plat (35 days for minor subdivisions), unless an extension is agreed to by the developer.

D. In general, the developer must donate a portion of the subdivided land for public parks. A cash contribution may be accepted in lieu of parkland.

E. The preliminary plat may be approved for one to three years. The government may require a bond to guarantee completion of improvements which are not proposed to be installed prior to final plat approval.

F. The final plat will be approved by the governing body if it conforms with the conditions imposed on the preliminary plat. A final plat, containing lots of less than 20 acres, may not be filed with the county clerk until

the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences has lifted all sanitary restrictions. (See SANITATION IN SUBDIVISIONS, p. 140)

Statute: 76-3-603, 604, 606, 610 and 611; MCA

3. Criteria

In reviewing a proposed subdivision, the governing body must consider 1) the subdivision's effect on agriculture, local services, the natural environment, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and the public health and safety; 2) the subdivision's compliance with surveying requirements and local subdivision regulations; and 3) the existence of legal and physical access to every lot in the subdivision and easements for any planned utilities.

Statute: 76-3-608, MCA

4. Additional Information

Expedited review is available in certain situations. Summary review (minor subdivision review) may be used if the subdivision contains five or fewer lots, there is proper access to all lots and no park has been dedicated. If the subdivision complies with a master plan, capital improvements plan and zoning the subdivision is deemed to be in the public interest and is exempt from the environmental assessment requirement.

UTILITIES

HIGHWAY UTILITY EASEMENTS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Utility facilities used to transport or distribute hydrocarbons, electric power, energy, communication signals, water and sewage are authorized to occupy highway rights-of-way if they conform to certain standards as approved by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT), (see also HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENTS - EASEMENTS, p. 58). All other facilities are considered privately owned and must receive a permit from the MDOT before being constructed in a highway right-of-way. City councils and boards of county commissioners grant similar approval along city streets and county roads, respectively.

Statute: 7-13-2101 and 4101, MCA

Rule: ARM 18.7.201 *et seq.*, 18.7.221-241

Contact: City or Town Council

Board of County Commissioners

Department of Transportation
Area Maintenance Bureau

2. Permitting Procedures

A. The utility must prepare and submit a notice of its proposed occupancy to the appropriate division office of the Department of Transportation. The notice must be submitted in triplicate, accompanied by utility plans showing the locations of the proposed facilities with respect to the highway.

B. The supervisor or chief will review the occupancy as proposed by the utility. If the proposal conforms with certain standards, as specified by rule, the supervisor must sign it, and if not, the supervisor must specify in writing the reasons the proposal does not comply. Standards include preserving the natural environment to the greatest extent possible and maintaining the facility and avoiding hazards or conflicts between the

highway and the facility.

C. The utility may resubmit its proposal after making the necessary changes to comply with the standards.

Rule: ARM 18.7.232

IMPROVEMENT AND UTILITY DISTRICTS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A number of means of funding are available to cities and counties for the construction of capital improvements such as streets, malls, lighting, parking, water and sewer systems, etc. Provisions vary, but typically, an improvement district may be established by the local government. In some cases, a petition by residents of the district is required. A board of directors may be elected or appointed, or the local government itself may be in charge. The district may sell bonds to finance the improvements, and an assessment is levied on benefitted property to service the bond debt and to operate and maintain the improvements. In some cases, user fees may be assessed. Potential developers should check with local authorities to determine applicable requirements.

Statute: Special Improvement Districts:
7-12-2101 *et seq.*, MCA
Rural Improvement Districts:
7-12-4101 *et seq.*, MCA
Lighting Districts:
7-12-2201 *et seq.*, 7-12-4301 *et seq.*, MCA
Street Parking:
7-12-4501 *et seq.*, MCA
Metropolitan Sanitary and Sewer Districts:
7-13-101 *et seq.*, MCA
County Water/Sewer Districts:
7-13-2201 *et seq.*, MCA
Public Sewer Systems:
7-13-4201 *et seq.*, MCA
Municipal Sewage/Water Systems:
7-13-4301 *et seq.*, MCA
Municipal Revenue Bonds:
7-7-4401 *et seq.*, MCA
Industrial Revenue Bonds:
90-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA

MAJOR FACILITY SITING

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

Certification by the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Department or Board of Health and Environmental Sciences is required for construction of major utilities (power generation plants, transmission lines, pipelines, etc.). For details and agency contacts, see p. 41.

Statute: 75-20-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.7.1201 *et seq.*

OVERHEAD LINES

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The city or town council may regulate erection of poles and cables within city limits (but not within highway right of way). The owner of agricultural lands may petition the district court for permission to relocate overhead lines for the purpose of installing an agricultural improvement. Persons moving buildings, equipment or other structures which will require the moving of overhead lines must give the person responsible for operating the lines 10 days notice or must pay half the reasonable cost of raising or cutting the wires or of moving the poles.

Statute: 69-4-401 *et seq.*, 69-4-601, 602 and 7-13-4106, MCA

Contact: City or Town Council
Operators of lines

PIPELINES - MAINS - UTILITY LINES

1. **Types of Activities Regulated**

The right to construct and operate pipelines for the transportation of crude petroleum, coal or the products thereof may be obtained by filing with the Public Service Commission a written agreement to become a common carrier and subject to all of the attendant duties and obligations. Construction of gas, water and other mains within

city limits is regulated and approved by the city or town council. Boards of county commissioners have similar authority outside of municipalities. City or town councils, or in some cases the Montana Department of Transportation on Highways on System Routes, may permit extension of utility lines outside of city limits. All plans for construction or extension of water or sewer lines must be approved by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (see SEWER SYSTEMS, p. 154 and PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY, p. 152).

Statute: 69-13-103, 7-13-2101, 4101, 4311-4312 and 7-3-4452, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.201 *et seq.* and 16.20.401 *et seq.*

Contact: City or Town Council or
Board of County Commissioners

Department of Public Service Regulation
Utilities Division

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

Department of Transportation
District Office (see APPENDIX 2)

UTILITY REGULATION

The Public Service Commission has general authority over public utilities (i.e., organizations which provide heat, street or railway service, light, power, water, telegraph or telephone service to the public). The PSC regulates rates and services and issues certificates of public convenience and necessity to motor carriers.

Utilities owned or controlled by a municipality, town or village or by a county or city-county water or sewer district or water or sewer association, are excluded from PSC regulation, with the following exceptions. A municipal utility that is not constructing mandated federal or state capitol improvements, and seeks to increase rates to recover a 12 percent or greater increase in annual revenues, must have approval from the PSC. In addition, if a local government utility is a "public" utility as defined by PSC rules, its operation is subject to PSC regulation. The rates and services for these systems are determined by the local government or district.

Statute: 69-3-101 *et seq.*, 69-7-101 *et seq.*, and 69-12-201, MCA

Rule: ARM 38.1.101, 38.5.701 and 702

Contact: Department of Public Service Regulation
Utilities Division

Municipal government
City or City-County water or sewer district

WATER

If the project requires water use, a water supply, or discharge of wastes into state waters, the following regulations may apply. (See also, IMPROVEMENT AND UTILITY DISTRICTS, p. 146)

DAMS AND RESERVOIRS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses and inspects hydropower dams. The Army Corps of Engineers should also be contacted for proposed dams on navigable or non-navigable waters. If the proposed dam facility will be on a stream located on state-owned lands, a lease or license must be obtained from the Board of Land Commissioners.

A person desiring to build a dam may need to contact the DNRC to acquire the necessary water permit or change authorization.

A dam owner must also obtain a dam safety construction permit from the DNRC prior to constructing any new high-hazard dam or reservoir that impounds at least 50 acre-feet, enlarges or removes an existing high-hazard dam or reservoir impounding at least 50 acre-feet, or extensively repairs or alters an existing high hazard dam or reservoir impounding 50 acre-feet or more. In addition, a dam safety operating permit needs to be obtained before operating a new high-hazard dam and, after October 1, 1990, before operating an existing high-hazard dam. Upon complaint, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation inspects and approves any dam on state waters.

Statute: Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791a *et seq.*
River and Harbors Act, 33 USC 401 *et seq.*
Montana Dam Safety Act, 85-15-101 *et seq.*, MCA
Title 85, Chapter 2, Parts 3 and 4, MCA
77-4-201 through 210, MCA

Contact: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
Dam Safety Section

Army Corps of Engineers
District Engineer
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

2. **Application Requirements** (for dams other than hydropower dams or dams on federal land)

   A. For hazard classification, the dam owner must apply for a determination from the DNRC.

   B. For a construction permit, the dam owner must submit an application form, construction plans, specifications, and a design report to the DNRC.

   C. For an operating permit, the dam owner must submit an application form, inspection report, and operation plan to the DNRC.

3. Fees

There is a $125 application fee for hazard classification. There are no application fees for either the construction or operation permit.

4. Permitting Procedures

The DNRC must issue or deny a construction permit for a high-hazard dam within 60 days of receiving the application. To operate a high-hazard dam, an operating permit must be received from the DNRC. The operating permit requires a construction permit and an approved operation plan. Within 60 days and upon completion of the review to ensure a safely built dam, a construction permit is issued or denied by DNRC. Operation permits are issued by DNRC upon review of the application.

Existing high-hazard dams must obtain an operating permit by October 1, 1990. Those dams classified as high-hazard before July 1, 1985, have until July 1, 1995 to comply.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A water system serving ten or more families or 25 or more persons for 60 days out of the calendar year must be approved by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. Plans and specifications for public water supply wells must be approved, as well as plans for construction, alteration or extensions of any water system or treatment facilities. Private water supply systems for food and lodging establishments licensed by the DHES also must be approved. Operators in charge of public water systems and treatment facilities must be licensed by the DHES.

Statute: 75-6-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.401-405 and 16.20.1601

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

2. Application Requirements

A. Prior to commencing construction, alteration or extension of a public water supply, the applicant must submit an engineering report along with the necessary plans and specifications to the DHES for review and written approval.

B. The engineering report, plans and specifications for a public water supply must be prepared and designed by a professional engineer according to specific engineering criteria.

C. The applicant must identify the legal entity responsible for the ownership, operation and maintenance of the public water supply.

D. If construction, alteration or extension of the public water supply has not commenced within two years after approval, the applicant must resubmit all of the information required in A, B, and C above.

E. The proposed public water supply must comply with the Montana Water Quality Act (75-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA). (See WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS, p. 160)

F. Any person who wishes to drill a well in the state in order to furnish

water for public consumption or use must register with the DHES. (see also WATER WELLS, p. 164).

G. Within 90 days after the construction, alteration or extension of the public water supply, the project engineer must certify to the DHES that the required work was completed according to the approved plans and specifications.

Rule: ARM 16.20.401 and 405

SEPTIC TANKS, CESSPOOLS AND PRIVIES

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Persons engaged in the business of cleaning cesspools, septic tanks, or privies and the disposal of septage therefrom must be licensed by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Food and Consumer Safety Bureau. An exclusion is made for the owner or lessee of a property disposing of septage on his or her own land as long as it does not create a nuisance or a public health hazard.

Statute: 37-41-101 and 105, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.808

2. Application Requirements

A. Applications for licenses must be made to the DHES, Food and Consumer Safety Bureau on forms provided by the department. The application must contain the applicant's name and business address; a list of counties in which business will be conducted; information on disposal sites and an estimate of the volume of septage to be disposed of at each disposal site; and, certification from the local health officer for each county served that all disposal sites meet applicable state and local requirements.

B. Licenses expire on December 31 of each calendar year and are non-transferable.

Statute: 37-41-201 and 202, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.808

3. Fees

The annual application fee for a cesspool, septic tank, and privy cleaning license is $25. A fee of $25 may also be assessed by the department for failure to renew a license before its expiration date.

Statute: 37-41-202(2), MCA

Rule: ARM 16.14.808

SEWER SYSTEMS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Approval from the Water Quality Bureau, Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, is required to construct, alter or extend a public sewer system serving 10 or more families or 25 or more persons for at least 60 days out of the calendar year. Operators in charge of public sewer systems must be licensed by the DHES.

Statute: 75-6-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.401 and 402

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

Board of Water and Wastewater Operators

2. Application Requirements

A. Prior to commencing construction, alteration or extension of a public sewer system, the applicant must submit an engineering report along with the necessary plans and specifications to the DHES for review and written approval.

B. The engineering report, plans and specifications for a public sewer system must be prepared and designed by a professional engineer

licensed in the state of Montana according to specific engineering criteria developed by the department.

C. The applicant must identify the legal entity responsible for the ownership, operation and maintenance of the public sewer system.

D. If construction, alteration or extension of the public sewer system has not commenced within two years after approval, the applicant must resubmit all of the information required in A, B and C above.

E. The proposed public sewer system must comply with the Montana Water Quality Act (75-5-101 *et seq.*).

F. Within 90 days after the construction, alteration or extension of the public sewer system, the project engineer must certify to the DHES that the required work was completed according to the approved plans and specifications. The project engineer must also provide "as built" drawings at this time.

Rule: ARM 16.20.401

WATER APPROPRIATIONS - GROUND WATER

1. Types of Activities Regulated

Any ground water appropriation that will exceed 35 gallons of water per minute or 10 acre feet of water per year for a beneficial use (see WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS, p. 156 for definition), or that is inside an established controlled ground water area, must be permitted by the DNRC before construction can commence.

No application for a permit to appropriate ground water in excess of 3,000 acre-feet per year can be granted by the DNRC without legislative affirmation of the DNRC's decision.

Statute: 85-2-302, 306, 317 and 508, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.102 and 103

Contact: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
Water Rights Bureau

2. Application Requirements

A. Any ground water appropriation exceeding 35 gallons per minute or 10 acre-feet per year, or that is within an established controlled ground water area must obtain a permit prior to commencing any construction. (See WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS, below, for permit application procedures)

B. A person appropriating 35 gallons per minute or less, with an annual volume of 10 acre-feet or less, is not required to obtain a permit before commencing a project. However, within 60 days after the well is completed and the water applied to a beneficial use, he or she must file a Notice of Completion form with DNRC so a Certificate of Water Right can be issued. The water well driller must file a Well Log Report on the water well with DNRC within 60 days after completion of the well.

C. A permit application in excess of 3,000 acre-feet of ground water per year must be filed with the DNRC. The DNRC may not grant the permit without legislative affirmation of the DNRC's decision (see 85-2-317, MCA).

Statute: 85-2-302, 306, 317, and 516, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.102 and 103

WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

State waters may be appropriated for "beneficial uses". These uses include, but are not limited to, agriculture, domestic use, fish and wildlife, mining, industrial activity, municipal supply, power generation, and recreation. A permit to appropriate surface water for beneficial uses is required from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation prior to commencing any project that proposes to use unappropriated water. A person who intends to appropriate water by means of a reservoir must also have a permit. Application forms are available from the DNRC central office and the nine local Water Resources Regional Offices, or the county clerk and recorder.

A change in place of use, place of diversion, place of storage, or purpose of use of an appropriated water right also requires approval by the DNRC. A change of ownership of a water right must be recorded with the DNRC by the filing of a water right transfer

certificate.

State, local and federal governments may apply for reservations of water for future beneficial uses. The application must be filed with the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation. The board has the authority to grant, deny, or modify the reservation requested in the application.

A permit is not required for construction of a pit or reservoir used for watering livestock if: 1) the pit or reservoir would contain less than 15 acre-feet of water, 2) the impoundment is constructed on and will be accessible to a parcel of land that is owned or controlled by the applicant and that is at least 40 acres in size, and 3) the appropriation is less than 30 acre-feet per year and is from a source other than a perennial flowing stream. However, an application for a permit must be submitted to the DNRC within 60 days after construction of the pit or reservoir.

Statute: 85-2-301, 302, 306, 316, 402 and 424, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.101-106 and 36.16.103-106

Contact: County Clerk and Recorder for forms

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division

Water Rights Bureau Office in Helena; or,
Local Water Resources Regional Offices located in Helena, Missoula, Kalispell, Havre, Glasgow, Billings, Lewistown, Bozeman and Miles City (see APPENDIX 2).

2. Application Requirements

An application for a beneficial water use permit or a change of a water right must be made on forms supplied by the DNRC. A defective application does not lose its filing priority if it is corrected and refiled within 30 days or as the DNRC may allow, up to three months. An application not corrected within three months is by law terminated. An application for a reservation (which can be made only by state, local or federal governments) is filed with the DNRC, but acted upon by the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation.

Statute: 85-2-301 *et seq.* and 85-2-402, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.102 and 36.16.103-106

3. Permitting Procedures

A. All applicants should plan ahead and expect this process to take up to six months. The application must be advertised. An administrative hearing may be required if objections are received.

B. The DNRC must prepare a notice on the application for a permit and publish it once in an area newspaper unless the DNRC finds from available information that the proposed appropriation will not adversely affect the rights of other persons.

C. Persons may file written objections to the permit application within a time established by the DNRC not less than 15 or more than 60 days after the date of publication. The objection must be correct and complete, including the name and address of the objector, facts tending to show that there are no unappropriated waters in the proposed source, that the proposed means of appropriation are inadequate, that the property, water rights, or interests of the objector would be adversely affected by the proposed appropriation, that the proposed use of water is not a beneficial use, or that the proposed use will interfere unreasonably with other planned uses or developments for which a permit has been issued or for which water has been reserved.

D. If the DNRC determines that objections to an application are valid, it will hold a public hearing unless an agreement is reached by the parties.

E. The DNRC will normally issue a decision on the permit within 120 days after publication of the notice if no objections have been received, and within 180 days if a hearing is held or objections have been received. These deadlines may be extended up to 60 days if an EIS is required. If no objection to the application is filed but the DNRC determines that the application should be approved in a modified form or denied, it must serve a statement of opinion upon the applicant, along with notice that the applicant may obtain a hearing by filing a request within 30 days.

F. The DNRC may issue a provisional permit for less than the amount of water requested, but in no case may it issue a permit for more water than requested or that can be beneficially used. The DNRC must state the time limits for commencement of the appropriation work, completion of construction, and actual application of the water to the proposed beneficial use.

G. Water permits are provisional until all claims of existing water rights in the source of supply have been adjudicated in state water court.

Contact the Montana Water Court or the DNRC for adjudication procedures.

H. A change authorization simply authorizes a change of an existing water right as to place of use, place of diversion, place of storage or purpose of use.

I. If a hearing is held on objections to an application, a proposed order will be prepared and sent to all parties of record in the case. Any party who disagrees with the order may file an objection and request an oral argument hearing before a final order is issued. The final order may be appealed by the applicant or objector to the district court within 30 days after receiving notice of the decision.

Statute: 85-2-307 through 315 and 402, MCA
See also, the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, 2-4-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.201-233 and 36.16.107

4. Fees

The application fee is established by rule. Fees are charged to cover some direct costs of the service, but do not cover any costs for employee salaries.

Statute: 85-2-113, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.103

5. Criteria

The DNRC must base its decision for issuance of a permit on the criteria found in 85-2-311, MCA, and for changes, in 85-2-402, MCA. All permits and change authorizations are issued subject to prior existing water rights and the final determination of those rights. Other conditions may be imposed to protect the rights of other water right appropriators on a case-by-case basis. Temporary and interim permits may also be issued with specific conditions.

Statute: 85-2-311, 312 and 402, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.104

6. Additional Information

A. Reservations

The state or any political subdivision or the federal government may apply to the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation to reserve waters for existing or future beneficial uses. Individuals may not make this application. Applications are processed and investigated by the DNRC. The board must make findings concerning the purpose and need for the water reservation, the amount of water necessary and whether the proposed use is in the public interest.

Statute: 82-2-316 and 331, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.12.102, 103 and 36.16.101-118

B. Highly Appropriated Basins

The legislature may, by law, preclude permit applications, or the DNRC may, by rule, reject permit applications or modify permits issued in a highly appropriated basin or subbasin. A rule may only be adopted by the DNRC upon petition by at least 25 percent or 10, whichever is less, of the users of water from the source of supply. The petition must allege that no unappropriated waters exist in the source of supply and that further uses will interfere unreasonably with other planned uses or developments for which a permit has been issued or for which water has been reserved.

Statute: 85-2-319, MCA

WATER POLLUTION: DISCHARGE PERMITS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A permit from the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences is required to construct, modify or operate a disposal system or to construct or use any outlet for discharge of sewage, industrial or other wastes into state surface or ground water.

The DHES may authorize short-term exemptions from certain water quality standards (3A authorization) for necessary short-term construction or hydraulic projects which may have short-term water quality impacts. Plans and specifications for tailings

ponds, leaching pads and holding facilities must be submitted to the DHES for review and approval at least 180 days before commencement of operations.

Statute: Montana Water Quality Act, 75-5-101 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.633, 16.20.1301 *et seq.*, and 16.20.1001 *et seq.*

Contact: Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

2. **Application Requirements**

The applicant for a water pollution discharge permit must file an application for a Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit or a Montana Groundwater Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) permit no less than 180 days prior to the operation of a point source. A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (contact the federal Environmental Protection Agency) or a Refuse Act permit (contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) also fulfill these requirements.

Application information must include plans and specifications, site plans, descriptions of adjacent state waters, soil conditions, ground water characteristics, process and waste flow diagrams, and volume and nature of projected discharges. Application for short-term exemption from water quality standards must be made on forms provided by the DHES.

Statute: 75-5-401 *et seq.*, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.1301 and 16.20.1013

3. **Permitting Procedures**

A. Upon receipt of the permit application, the DHES must make a tentative determination with respect to issuance or denial of an MPDES permit. The DHES is then required to issue a public notice to inform interested persons of the proposed discharge and of the tentative determination.

B. At least 30 days are provided for written comments from the public regarding the application.

C. The applicant, any affected agency, state, or country, the regional administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, or any interested

person or agency may request a public hearing on the application. The hearing must be held in the geographical area of the proposed discharge.

D. If the DHES denies the discharge permit, the applicant may appeal the decision to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences. The hearing must be held within 30 days of the receipt of the written request.

E. All MPDES permits are issued for a fixed term, not to exceed five years. All MGWPCS permits are issued for a fixed term, not to exceed 10 years.

Statute: 75-5-403, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.1301 *et seq.*, and 16.20.1001 *et seq.*

4. **Criteria**

All discharges of pollutants into state waters authorized by an MPDES permit must be consistent with the conditions of the permit. The discharge of pollutants into state waters in excess of the MPDES permit's restrictions constitutes a violation of the permit. State waters must be free of discharges that settle to form sludge deposits, create floating debris, produce odors, create toxic concentrations harmful to human, animal, plant and aquatic life, or create conditions capable of producing undesirable aquatic life.

Rule: ARM 16.20.633, 1002, 1003, 1015 and 1318

5. **Additional Information**

A. Non-degradation

If effluent limitations or other conditions are imposed on a discharge permit in order to maintain water quality at levels better than the applicable water quality standards as directed by the state's non-degradation policy, the permittee may, within 30 days, petition the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences for an exemption from such non-degradation requirements. The department will evaluate the petition and may require an environmental impact statement if needed to comply with the Montana Environmental Policy Act. The department's decision may be appealed to the Board of Health and Environmental Sciences.

Statute: 75-5-303, MCA

Rule: ARM 16.20.701 *et seq.*

B. General Permits

Certain specified categories of discharge may be authorized by a summary procedure under a general permit authorization.

Rule: ARM 16.20.1317

WATER POLLUTION: FEDERAL - INDIAN RESERVATIONS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

In accordance with amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act of 1972, anyone who wishes to discharge waste materials from a point source into waters of the United States must obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) granted permitting authority to the state of Montana in 1981, and thus, the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Water Quality Bureau issues discharge permits and monitors all dischargers in Montana, with the exception of those on any of the seven Indian Reservations. The EPA is the permit issuing authority for all wastewater dischargers inside reservation boundaries.

Each NPDES permit sets forth maximum limits for specific pollutant components which may be found in a particular discharge. The limits are calculated using either the National Secondary Treatment Standards, the Effluent Limitation Guidelines (40 C.F.R. Parts 400 to 471) or site specific water quality criteria. Compliance with the NPDES permit is enforceable under sections 308 and 309 of the Clean Water Act.

Statute: 33 USC 1251 *et seq.*, Federal Water Pollution Control Act

Contact: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Montana Office, Helena

Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Environmental Sciences Division
Water Quality Bureau

WATER WELLS

1. Types of Activities Regulated

In general, a permit is not required for appropriations of water by means of a well or developed spring that are 35 gallons or less per minute and with an annual volume of 10 acre-feet or less for any type of use. However, notice of completion of the well must be filed with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation within 60 days. Defective notices are returned to the well owners and must be resubmitted within a time specified by the DNRC in order to retain priority. All wells must be drilled by a contractor or driller licensed by the Board of Water Well contractors or by a person who has obtained a permit from the board to drill a well on his or her own agricultural property for private use.

Statute: 37-43-101 *et seq.*, MCA
85-2-306, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.21.601 *et seq.*
ARM 36.12.101 *et seq.*

Contact: County Clerk and Recorder

Board of Water Well Contractors

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
Water Rights Bureau

2. Application Requirements

A. A person who might engage in the drilling, making, construction, alteration, or rehabilitation of one or more water or monitoring wells for underground water in this state must file an application with the Board of Water Well Contractors for a license. The application must include verification of one or more years in the water well or monitoring field.

B. Permits for individuals drilling wells on their own property must show their interest in the land on which the well will be constructed and the method of construction to be used. Permits are often issued the same day if the application is complete.

3. Fees

A. There is a flat fee of $20 for filing a Notice of Completion on a well of 35 gallons per minute or less or an annual volume of 10 acre-feet or less (see WATER APPROPRIATIONS - SURFACE - DIVERSIONS, p.156 for fees required on permit applications).

B. There is no fee for filing the Well Log Report form.

C. Application and Renewal Fees are:

Category	Application Fee	Renewal Fee	Dates Valid
Water Well Contractor	$275	$140	July 1 - June 30
Water Well Driller	$165	$ 90	July 1 - June 30
Monitoring Well Constructor	$165	$140	July 1 - June 30

D. There is no fee for drilling a well on one's own property.

Rule: ARM 36.12.103

4. Permitting Procedures

A. Water well applications are reviewed and, if complete, can be approved on the date received. The examination is graded within three days. Driller's licenses are issued when the exam is passed. Entire application-review periods can be as short as one day, but average one or two weeks.

B. Contractor's licenses are not issued until bonds are submitted, and take an average of two weeks to be processed.

C. The National Water Well Association monitoring exam is given and graded by the NWWA. Grading takes about two to three weeks.

WEATHER MODIFICATION

1. Types of Activities Regulated

A license and permit from the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation are required to engage in weather modification and control activities. License and permit forms are available from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

Statute: 85-3-101 through 303, MCA

Rule: ARM 36.20.101-307

Contact: Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division

2. Application Requirements

A. License

A license is required of any person wishing to engage in weather modification activities within Montana. Applicants for such licenses must demonstrate competence in the field of meteorology. Application forms for weather modification permits are available upon request from the Water Resources Division of DNRC. A license expires at the end of the calendar year in which it is issued; at the expiration of the period, qualified licensees may apply for, and be issued, a renewal.

B. Permit

Persons holding valid weather modification licenses must apply for, and be issued, permits before they engage in actual weather modification and control activities. Separate permits are required for each operation. An applicant for a permit to conduct weather modification activities must file a notice of intention with the DNRC. The notice must include the applicant's name, address and information on the operations, the area to be affected and the materials and methods to be used. The DNRC must publish the notice at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper in the affected county. The DNRC must also hold a public meeting on the applications and prepare a report with an environmental impact statement for the BNRC. A public hearing may also be required.

Statute: 85-3-201 through 204, and 206 through 210, MCA.

3. Fees

A. The fee for a license or license renewal to conduct weather modification is $100.

B. The fee for a permit to conduct weather modification operations is one percent of the estimated cost of the operation.

C. The applicant must reimburse the DNRC for the cost of holding the public meeting, preparing the report, and preparing the environmental impact statement.

Statute: 85-3-202(1), 206(2d), and 212; MCA

4. Permitting Procedures

Information provided in the license applications is corroborated by the DNRC. Licenses are then awarded or not awarded by the board, based upon the statutory criteria.

Permit applications must be submitted at least ninety days prior to the date the weather modification operation is scheduled to begin. If the operation is new, the applicant is advised to consult with the DNRC at least six months before the operation is scheduled to begin. Once received, the application is evaluated, and an environmental analysis must be prepared by the DNRC. A hearing may be required at the applicant's expense. The DNRC may make recommendations to the board for approval, approval with conditions, or rejection. The board makes its decision based on the criteria described below.

5. Criteria

Competence in the field of weather modification and meteorology must be demonstrated by the applicants' experience, education, or certification by a nationally recognized weather modification professional society, agency, or organization. A minimum of one year of experience in management and control of a weather modification operation is required.

Approval criteria for permit applications are the following:

A. the person in charge is licensed to conduct weather modification

activities in Montana;

B. the project has been properly noticed;

C. the project has been insured in a manner that would protect victims of any unintended weather modification results;

D. the fees have been or will be paid, in accordance with the statute; and

E. the project is determined by the BNRC to be for the general welfare and public good.

6. **Additional Information**

On petition of county residents, a county may establish a weather modification authority to engage in weather modification activities.

Statute: 85-3-401 *et seq.*, MCA

APPENDIX 1: MONTANA STATE AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Director, Leo A. Giacometto
Agriculture and Livestock Building
Sixth and Roberts
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3144

Agricultural and Biological Sciences Division
Administrator, Gary Gingery
Sixth and Roberts
(406) 444-2944

Aerial pesticide applications
Pesticide applications
Pesticide registration

Plant Industry Division
Administrator, Willard A. Kissinger
Sixth and Roberts
(406) 444-3730

Fertilizer registration

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Director, Jon D. Noel
1424 Ninth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3797

Local Government Assistance Division
Administrator, Newell Anderson
1424 Ninth Avenue
(406) 444-3757

Community Development Bureau
Bureau Chief, Dave Cole
1424 Ninth Avenue
(406) 444-3757

Subdivisions

Hardrock Mining Impact Board
Administrative Officer, Carol Ferguson
1424 Ninth Avenue
(406) 444-4478

Hardrock mining

Public Safety Division
Administrator, James Kemble
1520 East Sixth Avenue. Room 50
(406) 444-3934

Building Codes Bureau
Chief, James Brown
1218 E. Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-3933

Building codes

Professional and Occupational Licensing Bureau
Chief, Steve H. Meloy
111 North Jackson
(406) 444-3737

Outfitters and guides
Sale of subdivided land

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

Executive Director, Deborah Schmidt
Capitol Building, Room 106
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3742

Environmental impact statements
Environmental assessments

DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Director, Pat Graham
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3186

Administration and Finance Division
Associate Director, Dave Mott
1420 East Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-4786

Licensing/Data Processing Bureau
Chief, Jim Herman
(406) 444-4558

Fish and game licenses
Special permits and licenses

Field Services Division
Administrator, Jerry Wells
1420 East Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-2602

Open space - easements

Fisheries Division
Administrator, Larry Peterman
1420 East Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-2449

Salmon eggs
Streambed protection
Habitat preservation

Law Enforcement Division
Administrator, Erwin Kent
1420 East Sixth
(406) 444-2452

Commercial seining
Game preserves
Game for scientific purposes
Fishing, hunting, trapping regulations
Fur dealers
Game, game bird or fur farms
Ice fishing shelters
Roadside zoos
Shooting preserves
Snare trapping
Snowmobiles
Shooting preserve bird tags

Wildlife Division
Administrator, Don Childress
1420 East Sixth
(406) 444-2612

Baits on DFWP lands
Endangered species
Migratory waterfowl permits
Wild bird permits

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Director, Bob Robinson
Cogswell Building, Room C-108
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, Montana 59620-0901
(406) 444-2544

Environmental Sciences Division
Administrator, Steve Pilcher
Cogswell Building, Room A-107
(406) 444-3948

Air Quality Bureau
Chief, Jeff Chaffee
Cogswell Building, Room A-116
(406) 444-3454

Air pollution permits
Burning permits
Major facility certificates

Occupational and Radiological Health Bureau
Chief, Adrian C. Howe
Cogswell Building, Room A-104
(406) 444-3671

Asbestos control
Occupational emissions
Noise
Radioactivity

Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Acting Bureau Chief, Roger Thorvilson
836 Front Street
(406) 444-2821

Underground Storage Tank Section
Section Supervisor, John Geach
(406) 444-5970

Underground storage tanks

Waste Management Section
Section Supervisor, Roger Thorvilson
(406) 444-1430

Hazardous waste disposal
Motor vehicle wrecking facilities
Roadside junkyards
Solid waste disposal

Water Quality Bureau
Cogswell Building, Room A-206
(406) 444-2406

Animal confinement facilities (feedlots)
Hardrock mining discharge permits
Major facility certificates
Oil and gas wells - discharge permits
Public water supplies
Sewer systems
Subdivisions
Uranium solution extraction
Water pollution permits

Health Services Division
Administrator, J. Dale Taliaferro
Cogswell Building, Room C-202
(406) 444-4473

Food and Consumer Safety Bureau
Chief, Mitzi Schwab
Cogswell Building, Room C-314
(406) 444-2408

Dairies
Septic tanks, cesspools, privies
Trailer courts, camp grounds

Preventive Health Services Bureau
Chief, Judith Gedrose
Cogswell Building, Room C-317
(406) 444-2737

Roadside zoos

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Director, Brian Cockhill
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-2696

State Historic Preservation Office
Preservation Officer, Marcella Sherfy
1410 Eighth Avenue
(406) 444-7715

Heritage site preservation

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Attorney General, Joseph Mazurek
Justice Building, 3rd Floor
215 North Sanders
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-2026

Law Enforcement Services Division
Administrator, Mike Batista
Scott Hart Building, Room 359
303 North Roberts
(406) 444-3874

Fire Prevention and Investigation Bureau
State Fire Marshall, Bruce Suenram
303 North Roberts, Room 365
(406) 444-2050

Above-ground storage tanks
Fire inspection

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Commissioner, Laurie Ekanger
Lockey and Roberts
P.O. Box 201501
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-3555

Employment Relations Division
Administrator, Bob Anderson
Lockey and Roberts
(406) 444-4524

Safety Bureau
Chief, John Maloney
(406) 444-6401

Coal mining safety regulations
Hardrock mining safety regulations
Opencut mining safety regulations

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK

Executive Secretary, E. E. Mortensen
Scott Hart Building, 3rd Floor
310 Roberts
P.O. 202001
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-2023

Milk and Egg Bureau
Chief, Dr. Hal Sheets
(406) 444-5202

Dairies

Predator Control Bureau
Chief, Marc Bridges
(406) 444-2045

Pilot and Aircraft Unit
Dick Swayzee
(406) 444-2045

Aerial hunting, predator control

Animal Health Division
Administrator, Donald Ferlicka DVM
Scott Hart Building, 3rd Floor
(406) 444-2043

Slaughterhouses and meatpacking plants

Brands Enforcement Division
Administrator, Jack Sedgwick
Scott Hart Building, 2nd floor

Game farms

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Director, Mark Simonich
1520 East Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 202301
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-6699

Conservation and Resource Development Division
Administrator, Ray Beck
1520 East Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-6667

Conservation Districts Bureau
Chief, Steve Schmitz
(406) 444-6691

Soil and water conservation districts
Stream banks, stream beds

Energy Division
Administrator, Van Jamison
1520 East sixth Avenue
(406) 444-6754

Conservation and Renewable Energy Bureau
Chief, Tom Livers
(406) 444-6776

Geothermal development
Wind energy

Facility Siting Bureau
Chief, Art Compton
(406) 444-6791

Facility siting certificates

Planning and Analysis Bureau
Chief, Alan Davis
(406) 444-6756

Facility siting certificates

Oil and Gas Conservation Division

See APPENDIX 2: State agency regional offices.

Oil and gas development
Geophysical exploration

Water Resources Division
Administrator, Gary Fritz
1520 East Sixth Avenue
(406) 444-6601

Floodplain regulations
Hydroelectric Sites
Lakeshores

Water Management Bureau
Chief, Richard Moy
(406) 444-6637

Water wells
Weather modification
Dam Safety Program

Water Operations Bureau
Chief, Laurence Siroky
(406) 444-6610

Dams and reservoirs

Water Rights Bureau
Chief, Larry Holman
(406) 444-6610

Water appropriations
Water rights

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION

Chair, Bob Anderson
1701 Prospect Avenue, Vista Building
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-6199

Utility Division

Administrator, Dan Elliott
1701 Prospect Avenue
(406) 444-6188

Pipelines
Utilities

SECRETARY OF STATE

Mike Cooney
State Capitol, Room 225
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-2034

Geophysical exploration

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

Commissioner, Bud Clinch
1625 Eleventh Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 444-2074

Forestry Division
State Forester, Don Artley
2705 Spurgin Road
Missoula, Montana 59801
(406) 542-4300

Burning permits
Cabin sites
Christmas tree cutting
Portable sawmills
Slash disposal
Streamside management zones
Timber removal
Timber sales

Land Administration Division
Administrator, Jeff Hagener
1625 Eleventh Avenue
(406) 444-2074

Activities on state lands:

Cropland leases
Grazing leases
Geothermal leases
Hydroelectric sites
Natural areas
Mining leases
Oil and gas leases

Reclamation Division
Administrator, Gary Amestoy
1625 Eleventh Avenue
(406) 444-2074

Coal and uranium mining
Hardrock mining
Milling/Reprocessing
Opencut mining

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Director, Marvin Dye
Highway Building
2701 Prospect Avenue
P.O. Box 201001
Helena, Montana 59620-1001
(406) 444-6201

Aeronautics Division
Administrator, Michael Ferguson
2630 Airport Road
(406) 444-2506

Aerial pesticide application
Airports

Highways Division
Administrator, Tom Barnard
2701 Prospect Avenue
(406) 444-6003

Right-of-Way Bureau
Chief, Thomas E. Martin, PE
(406) 444-6063

Easements, encroachments
Roadside junkyards

Operations Division
Gary A. Gilmore, PE
Operations Engineer
2701 Prospect Avenue
(406) 444-6005

Area Maintenance Bureaus
(see APPENDIX 2)

Approach permits
Highway advertising permits
Utility permits

APPENDIX 2: STATE AGENCY REGIONAL OFFICES

DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Billings: Region 5 Supervisor, Dick Ellis
2300 Lake Elmo Drive
(406) 252-4654

Bozeman: Region 3 Supervisor, Bob Martinka
1400 South 19th
(406) 994-4042

Glasgow: Region 6 Supervisor, Art Warner
RR 1-4210
(406) 228-9347

Great Falls: Region 4 Supervisor, Mike Aderhold
4600 Giant Springs Road
P.O. Box 6609
(406) 454-3441

Helena: Region 8 Supervisor, Jerry Wells
1404 Eight Avenue
(406) 444-4720

Kalispell: Region 1 Supervisor, Dan Vincent
P.O. Box 67
490 North Meridian
(406) 257-0349

Miles City: Region 7 Supervisor, Don Hyyppa
RR 1; P.O. Box 2004
(406) 232-4365

Missoula: Region 2 Supervisor, Rich Clough
3201 Spurgin Road
(406) 542-5500

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Air Quality Bureau

Billings: Eastern Montana College
Petro Hall
Box 108
(406) 657-2617

Food and Consumer Safety Bureau

Billings: Eastern Montana College
Petro Hall
Box 108
(406) 657-2294

Water Quality Bureau

Billings: Eastern Montana College
Petro Hall
Box 108
(406) 657-2616

Polson: Box 131
(406) 883-5858

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Oil and Gas Conservation District Offices

Technical and Southern Field Office
2535 St. Johns Avenue
Billings, MT 59102
(406) 656-0040

Northern Field Office
165 Main Street
Shelby, MT 59474
(406) 434-2442

Water Resources Division Regional Offices

Billings:	1537 Avenue D, Suite 121 (406) 657-2105
Bozeman:	201 South Wallace (406) 586-3136
Glasgow:	839 1st Avenue South P.O. Box 1269 (406) 228-2561
Havre:	1708 West 2nd Street P.O. Box 1828 (406) 265-5516
Helena:	1520 6th Avenue (406) 444-6695
Kalispell:	3220 Highway 93 South P.O. Box 860 (406) 752-2288
Lewistown:	311 West Janeaux P.O. Box 438 (406) 538-7459
Miles City:	5 North Prairie Avenue P.O. Box 276 (406) 232-6359
Missoula:	Town And County Shopping Center 1610 South 3rd Street West, Suite 103 P.O. Box 5004 (406) 721-4284

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

State Land Offices

Central Land Office
8001 North Montana
Helena, Montana
(406) 444-3633

Eastern Land Office
321 Main
Miles City, Montana
(406) 232-2034

Northeastern Land Office
USDA Building
613 Northeast Main Street
Lewistown, Montana
(406) 538-5989

Northwestern Land Office
2250 Highway 93 North
P.O. Box 490
Kalispell, Montana
(406) 752-7994

Southern Land Office
Airport Industrial Park
Billings, Montana
(406) 259-3264

Southwestern Land Office
1401 27th Avenue
Missoula, Montana
(406) 542-4200

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

District and Area Field Offices

Billings:	P.O. Box 20437 (406) 252-4138
Bozeman:	P.O. Box 1110 (406) 586-9562
Butte:	P.O. Box 3068 (406) 494-3224
Glendive:	P.O. Box 890 (406) 365-5296
Great Falls:	P.O. Box 1359 (406) 727-4350
Havre:	P.O. Box 592 (406) 265-6821
Lewistown:	P.O. Box 491 (406) 538-7445
Kalispell:	P.O. Box 400 (406) 755-5717
Miles City:	P.O. Box 460 (406) 232-1093
Missoula:	P.O. Box 7039 (406) 549-6491
Wolf Point:	P.O. Box (406) 653-1050

APPENDIX 3: LOCAL PERMITTING AUTHORITIES

CONSERVATION and GRAZING DISTRICTS

Agricultural activities
Forestry activities
Grazing leases
Land use regulations
Subdivision activities

CONSERVATION DISTRICT CONTACTS

Beaverhead District
Contact: Jan Phillips
P.O. Box 606
Dillon, Montana 59725
(406) 683-6539

Big Horn District
Contact: Gloria Menke
724 West Third Street
Hardin, Montana 59034
(406) 665-3777

Big Sandy District
Contact: Sonia Silvan
P.O. Box 111
Big Sandy, Montana 59520
(406) 378-2298

Bitterroot District
Contact: Cheryl Brown
1709 North First Street
Hamilton, Montana 59840
(406) 363-5010

Blaine County District
Contact: Shannon Sattleen
P.O. Box 189
Chinook, Montana 59523
(406) 357-2310

Broadwater District
Contact: Charlotte Lewis
415 South Front
Townsend, Montana 59644
(406) 266-3146

Carbon District
Contact: Lisa Gruber
205 South Main
Drawer J
Joliet, Montana 59041
(406) 962-3641

Carter County District
Contact: Georgia Bruski
P.O. Box 313
Ekalaka, Montana 59324
(406) 775-6355

Cascade County District
Contact: Dixie Nugent
1807 Third Street Northwest
Great Falls, Montana 59404
(406) 727-3603

Chouteau County District
Contact: Julia Bitz
P.O. Box 309
Fort Benton, Montana 59442
(406) 622-5627

Culbertson-Bainville District
Contact: Shirley Rasmussen
P.O. Box 517
Culbertson, Montana 59218
(406) 787-5232

Custer County District
Contact: Connie Carpenter
3120 Valley Drive East
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-2439

Daniels County District
Contact: Mary Tymofichuk
P.O. Box 843
Scobey, Montana 59263
(406) 487-2872

Dawson County District
Contact: Patty Winchell
102 Fir Street FP
Glendive, Montana 59330
(406) 365-5563

Deer Lodge Valley District
Contact: Shaunda Hildebrand
91 North Frontage Road
Deer Lodge, Montana 59722
(406) 846-1703

E. Sanders County District
Contact: Patsy Meredith
102 Highway 200 West
Plains, Montana 59859
(406) 826-3701

Fergus County District
Contact: Patricia Anderson
613 NE Main
Lewistown, Montana 59457
(406) 538-7401

Flathead District
Contact: Cathy Jones
35 West Reserve Drive
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 752-4242

Froid District
Contact: Shirley Rasmussen
P.O. Box 517
Culbertson, Montana 59218
(406) 787-5232

Gallatin District
Contact: Bonnie Elmore
601 Nikles Drive, Box B
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 587-6929

Garfield County District
Contact: Sonja Turner
P.O. Box 369
Jordan, Montana 59337
(406) 557-2232

Glacier County District
Contact: Gloria Mason
517 East Main Street
Cut Bank, Montana 59427
(406) 873-5752

Granite District
Contact: Susan Antonioli
P.O. Box U
Philipsburg, Montana 59858
(406) 859-3291

Green Mountain District
Contact: Marily McWilliams
P.O. Box 1329
Trout Creek, Montana 59874
(406) 827-3520

Hill County District
Contact: Bridett K. Buen
720 First Street West
Havre, Montana 59501
(406) 265-6252

Jefferson Valley District
Contact: Kris Hugelet
P.O. Box D
Whitehall, Montana 59759
(406) 287-3215

Judith Basin District
Contact: Pat Bodner
P.O. Box 386
Stanford, MT 59479
(406) 566-2311

Lake County District
Contact: Chris Malgren
P.O. Box 766
Polson, Montana 59860
(406) 883-5875

Lewis and Clark County District
Contact: Connie Olsen
790 Colleen Street
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 449-5278

Liberty County District
Contact: Marlene Moon
P.O. Box 669
Chester, Montana 59522
(406) 759-5778

Lincoln District
Contact: Vicki McGuire
655 Highway 93 North
Eureka, Montana 59917
(406) 296-2233

Little Beaver District
Contact: Jan Menger
P.O. Box 917
Baker, Montana 59313
(406) 778-2217

Lower Musselshell District
Contact: Charmaine Stappler
109 Railroad Avenue East
Roundup, Montana 59072
(406) 323-2103

Madison District
Contact: Chuck Aaberg
P.O. Box 606
Ennis, Montana 59729
(406) 682-7289

McCone District
Contact: Evelyn Kondelik
P.O. Box 276
Circle, Montana 59215
(406) 485-2660

Meagher County District
Contact: Donna Burns
P.O. Box 589
White Sulphur Springs,
Montana 59645
(406) 547-3633

Mile High District
Contact: Kris Hugulet
P.O. Box D
Whitehall, Montana 59759
(406) 287-3215

Mineral County District
Contact: Theresa Meeks
P.O. Box 390
Superior, Montana 59872
(406) 822-4542

Missoula County District
Contact: Paula Chait
5115 Highway 93 South
Missoula, Montana 59801
(406) 251-4826

North Powell District
Contact: Shaunda Hildebrand
91 North Frontage Road
Deer Lodge, Montana 59722
(406) 846-1703

Park District
Contact: Beverly Yager
Route 62, Box 3197
Livingston, Montana 59047
(406) 222-2899

Petroleum County District
Contact: James Altenburg
P.O. Box 118
Winnett, Montana 59087
(406) 429-6646

Phillips District
Contact: Diane Jones
HC 72, Box 7615
Malta, Montana 59538
(406) 654-1334

Pondera County District
Contact: Gloria Griggs
Pondera Village
Shopping Center
Conrad, Montana 59425
(406) 278-3922

Powder River District
Contact: Twila Jo Talcott
P.O. Box 180
Broadus, Montana 59317
(406) 436-2417

Prairie County District
Contact: Ruth Roos
P.O. Box 622
Terry, Montana 59349
(406) 637-5868

Richland County District
Contact: Marilyn McCartney
HCR 89, Box 5165A
Sidney, Montana 59270
(406) 482-2110

Rosebud District
Contact: Jeanne LaBree
P.O. Box 1200
Forsyth, Montana 59327
(406) 356-7479

Ruby Valley District
Contact: Lida Robinson
P.O. Box 295
Sheridan, Montana 59749
(406) 842-5741

Sheridan County District
Contact: Thelma Williams
119 North Jackson
Plentywood, Montana 59254
(406) 765-2252

Stillwater District
Contact: Barbara Berry
P.O. Box 415
Columbus, Montana 59019
(406) 322-5359

Sweet Grass County District
Contact: Coral Wilson
P.O. Box 749
Big Timber, Montana 59011
(406) 932-5160

Teton County District
Contact: Dale Johnson
Route 2, Box 240
Choteau, Montana 59422
(406) 466-5722

Toole County District
Contact: Kristi Schwartz
865 Oilfield Avenue
Shelby, Montana 59474
(406) 434-5835

Treasure County District
Contact: Diane Stephenson
P.O. Box 231
Hysham, Montana 59038
(406) 342-5466

Upper Musselshell District
Contact: Cheryl Miller
P.O. Box 201
Harlowton, Montana 59036
(406) 632-5534

Valley County District
Contact: Alice Eide
98 Highway 2 East
Glasgow, Montana 59230
(406) 228-4324

Wibaux District
Contact: Karen Obrigewitch
P.O. Box 314
Wibaux, Montana 59353
(406) 795-2211

Yellowstone District
Contact: LaVerne Ivie
Building B, Suite 2
Billings, Montana 59102
(406) 657-6527

DISTRICT COURT

Mining right-of-way
Overhead lines

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMISSIONS

Beaverhead County
Randall Tommerup
County Commissioner
2100 Sawmill Road
Dillon, MT 59725

Big Horn County
Alan Hanson
Environmental Health Director
809 North Custer
Hardin, MT 59034

Blaine County
Janet K. Boisvert
Teacher
Harlem, MT 59526

Broadwater County
Mike Wenzel
DES Coordinator
P.O. Box 489
Townsend, MT 59644

Carbon County
Mike Fahley
DES Coordinator
Box 466
Red Lodge, MT 59068

Carter County
Bill Wear
P.O. Box 236
Ekalaka, MT 59324

Cascade County
William E Murray
DES Director
P.O. Box 3127
Great Falls, MT 59403-3127

Great Falls - city only
Richard Meisinger
Fire Chief
105 9th Street South
Great Falls, MT 59401

Choteau County
Linda Williams
DES Coordinator
P.O. Box 1204
Fort Benton, MT 59442

Custer County
Leonard F. Smith
Fire Chief
Rte. 1, Box 2614
Miles City, MT 59301

Daniels County
Bill Tande
Box 188
Scobey, MT 59263

Dawson County
Art Zody
DES Coordinator
207 South Bell
Glendive, MT 59330

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Milo Manning
Planning Board Director
800 Main
Anaconda, MT 59711

Fallon County
Leroy Singer
Rancher
Box 846
Baker, MT 59313

Fergus County
Karen Marks
DES Coordinator
311 W. Brassey
Lewistown, MT 59457

Flathead County
Kim Potter
DES Coordinator
800 South Main
Kalispell, MT 59901

Gallatin County
Hank Wruck
DES Coordinator
P.O. Box 1094
Bozeman, MT 59715

Garfield County
Bill Merlack
Commissioner
Angela, MT 59312

Glacier County
Jim King
DES Coordinator
1210 East Main St.
Cut Bank, MT 59427

Golden Valley County
Dee W. Howard
Under Sheriff
Box 50, 107 Kemp St.
Ryegate, MT 59074

Granite County
Mark Ransford
County Commissioner
33 Mullan Trail W
Drummond, MT 59858

Hill County
Kathy Bessette
Commissioner
Hill County Courthouse
Havre, MT 59501

Jefferson County
Paul Ruffatto
Commissioner
Drawer H
Boulder, MT 59632

Judith Basin County
Logan Hazen
DES Coordinator
Box 44
Stanford, MT 59479

Lake County
Richard L. Giffin
DES Coordinator
106 4th Avenue E
Polson, MT 59860

Lewis and Clark County
Paul Spengler
DES Coordinator
221 Breckenridge
Helena, MT 59601

Liberty County
Charles Hanson
Pastor
Box 612, 504 Taylor St.
Chester, MT 59522

Lincoln County
Mick Mills
DES Coordinator
124 West Cedar
Libby, MT 59923

Madison County
John Allhands
County Commissioner
P.O. Box 278
Virginia City, MT 59755

McCone County
Elaine Wittkopp
Nurse Aid
Sr 279 Box 22
Circle, MT 59215

Meagher County
Thomas Fuhringer
Sheriff
County jail
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645

Mineral County
Gordon Hendrick
Foreman
Montana Rail Link
P.O. Box 262
Superior, MT 59872

Missoula County
Charles Gibson
Fire Chief
200 W. Pine
Missoula, MT 59802

Musselshell County
Ken Minnie
DES Coordinator
26 Main
Roundup, MT 59072

Park County
Bob Fry
DES Director
414 Callender
Livingston, MT 59047

Petroleum County
Bob Busenbark
Box 55
Winnett, MT 59087

Phillips County
Clark Kelly
Clerk
P.O. Box 967
Malta, MT 59538

Pondera County
Ed Gierke
DES Coordinator
20 4th Ave SW
Conrad, MT 59425

Powder River County
Ken Rogge
Sheriff
Box J
Broadus, MT 59317

Powell County
Bernard Barton
County DES Coordinator
409 Missouri Ave.
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Prairie County
Ronald Kiosse
Manager, Farmers Union
P.O. Box 420
Terry, MT 59349

Ravalli County
Deb Brice
Bitterroot National Forest Service
125 Tawney View
Hamilton, MT 59840

Richland County
Willaim Renders
DES Coordinator
121 Third Avenue NW
Sidney, MT 59270

Roosevelt County
Daniel Sietsema
DES Coordinator
County Courthouse
Wolf Point, MT 59201

Rosebud County
Carole Raymond
Rosebud County DES
P.O. Box 687
Forsyth, MT 59327

Sanders County
Jim Krogman
DES Director
P.O. Box 519
Thompson Falls, MT 59873

Sheridan County
Dennis Paulbeck
DES Director
100 West Laurel
Plentywood, MT 59254

Butte-Silver Bow County
Robert Armstrong
Fire Chief
120 South Idaho
Butte, MT 59701

Stillwater County
Tom Kelly
DES Coordinator
Box 627
Columbus, MT 59019

Sweet Grass County
Pat Hansen
DES Director
P.O. Box 264
Big Timber, MT 59011

Teton County
Eldon Cook
Contractor
P.O. Box 6
Choteau, MT 59422

Toole County
Irene Gottfried
DES Coordinator
999 2nd St. South
Shelby, MT 59474

Treasure County
Bill W. Hedges
County Sheriff
Box 511
Hysham, MT 59038

Valley County
Richard Wessler
DES Coordinator
Box 66, Court Square
Glasgow, MT 59230

Wheatland County
Johnny Pucket
Harlowtown, MT 59036

Wibaux County
Frank Datta
DES Coordinator
P.O. Box 336
Wibaux, MT 59353

Yellowstone County
Loren Ballard
Fire Chief
2305 8th Avenue North
Billings, MT 59101

LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES: CITY OR TOWN COUNCILS OR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Airport zoning
Building codes
Burning permits
Ferries
Fire inspection
Floodway regulation
Geophysical exploration
Highway excavations
Improvement districts
Lakeshore protection
Mains, water and sewer
Mining claims
Oil and gas leases
Overhead lines
Stream preservation
Subdivision plat approval
Timber removal
Utility extensions
Water appropriations
Zoning

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS

Air pollution permits
Campgrounds
Dairies
Solid waste disposal facilities
Subdivisions, sanitary restrictions
Tourist campgrounds
Trailer courts

SHERIFF

Fire inspection

APPENDIX 4: FEDERAL AGENCIES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Omaha District Headquarters
215 North 17th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4978

US Army Corps of Engineers
c/o DNRC/CDD
1520 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620-2301
(406) 444-6670

Dams and reservoirs
Stream preservation, wetlands

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management
Montana State Office
222 North 32nd Street
P.O. Box 36800
Billings, Montana 59107
(406) 255-2913

Bureau of Land Management
Lewistown District Office
Airport Road
Lewistown, Montana 59457
(406) 538-7461

Bureau of Land Management
Butte District Office
P.O. Box 3388
Butte, Montana 59702
(406) 494-5059

Bureau of Land Management
Miles City District Office
P.O. Box 950
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-4331

Grazing leases
Mine claim recording

Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Building
100 North Park, Suite 320
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225

Endangered species

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

19 North 25th Street
Billings, Montana 59101

Indoor emissions
Occupational noise

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region VIII, Montana Office
Federal Building
301 South Park, Room 102
Drawer 10096
Helena, Montana 59626-0096
(406) 449-5432

Activities on tribal lands
Oil and gas recovery (Underground Injection Control Program)
Pesticide registration

U.S. FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Regional Office
1120 S.W. 5th Avenue, Suite 1340
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 292-5844

Office of Hydropower Licensing
Washington D.C. 20426
(202) 219-2700

Hydroelectric sites

INDEX

124 permit 12
310 Permit 2, 11, 12, 35
404 Permit 35

A

Aboveground storage tanks 23, 134
Aerial applicators 19
Aerial hunting 74
Agriculture xvi, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19-22, 108, 141, 144, 156, 169
    conservation districts 2, 3, 11, 15, 35, 89, 177
    cropland leases 15, 180
    fertilizer registration 16, 169
    meatpacking plants 47
    pesticide registration 200
    slaughterhouses 47, 177
    1080 77
Air pollution 28, 30, 31, 129, 173, 198
Air quality permits 28, 32, 37, 45, 47, 49, 81, 89, 97, 101, 125
    asphalt plants 28
    burning permits 49, 173, 180
    federal air quality permits 32
    prevention of significant deterioration 31
    temporary crushers 28
Airport Zoning Act 2
Airports 1, 2, 181
    airport hazard regulation 1
    noise levels 1
Alternative site studies 45
Ambient air quality 30, 31
Anhydrous ammonia 17
Animal confinement facilities 15, 174
Animal-unit-month 18
Antiquities permits 5
Asbestos xvi, 38, 39, 101, 173
Asbestos abatement 38, 39

Asbestos control 38, 173

B

Bait fish 70, 71
Big game hunting 74
Boating 117
    boat racing 117
    boat registration 116
    noise standards for 117
Boilers and industrial furnaces 125
Building codes 25, 26, 170, 198
Burning permits 49, 50, 173, 180, 198

C

Cabin sites 50, 180
Campgrounds 117, 118, 198
Certificate of Clearance 50
Certificate of Public Need and Environmental Compatibility 32
Cesspools 132, 153, 174
Clean Water Act 13, 14, 25, 35, 163
Coal leases 98
Conservation districts 2, 3, 11, 15, 35, 89, 177
Conservation easements 9

D

Dairies 47, 174, 176, 198
Dam safety 150, 179
Dams 2, 35, 36, 41, 150, 151, 179, 199
Dikes 2, 58
Discharge permits 45, 160, 174
Ditches 2, 6, 25, 58, 94

E

Eagles 78
Eminent domain 110
Endangered species 76, 77, 200
Environmental assessment 105, 106, 110, 130, 140, 143, 144
Environmental impact statements 106, 171

Excavation of heritage properties 4
Exchange of land 10

F

Facility siting 32, 41, 42, 44-46, 89, 124, 147, 178
Falconry 78
Federal air quality permits 32
Federal Clean Water Act 25, 163
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act 21
Federal Land Policy and Management Act 19
Federal Power Act 34
Feedlots 15, 174
Ferries 56, 198
Fertilizer distribution 16, 17
Fertilizer registration 169
Fish hatcheries 74
Fishing licenses 72
Floodplains and floodways 3
Forest practices 53
Fur dealers 62, 172
Fur farms 63, 172

G

Game animal licenses 72
Game bird farms 64
Game bird licenses 72
Game farms 65, 177
Game preserves 75, 172
Geophysical exploration 109, 112, 178, 179
Geothermal leases 9, 10, 32, 33, 180
Geothermal resources 32, 41
Grazing 2, 8, 15, 17-19, 180, 188, 200
    grazing district 17
    grazing leases 19, 180, 188, 200
    grazing on state lands 18
    grazing permit 17
    grazing preferences 17
Guides 60, 66, 171

H

Hazardous waste xvi, 38, 42, 123-127, 129, 130, 132, 133, 136, 137, 173, 174
    emergency permits 124
    generators and transporters 124
Heritage sites 4, 9
Highway advertising 56, 182
Highway approach permits 57
Highway encroachments 10, 58, 145
Highway utility easements 59, 145
Hunting licenses 73
Hydroelectric power development 9, 34-36
Hydropower 34, 35, 150, 151, 201

I-L

Ice fishing 74, 172
Improvement and utility districts 146
In-situ mining 84
Incinerators 37, 38, 125, 126
Indoor emissions 38, 39, 200
Industrial revenue bonds 146
Interstate Land Sales Act 138
Junk vehicle 128
Lakeshore protection 6, 198
Lakeshores 6, 178
Landfills 49, 129
Landowner Notification Act 94
Lighting districts 146

M

Master plan 8, 26, 144
Meatpacking plants 47, 48, 177
Medical waste incinerators 37
Megalandfills 129
Menagerie 69
Meteorology 166, 167
Migratory birds 76, 78
Mines and Mining
    coal and uranium xvi, 79, 80, 83, 85, 86, 181
    coal or uranium mine operating permit 81
    exploration license for hardrock mining 87
    large scale developments 93
    milling/reprocessing 88, 181
    mine safety regulations 81, 89, 96

mine-site location permit 79, 80
mining for metalliferous minerals and gems 99
mining of nonmetallic minerals 101
opencut mining 95-97, 176, 181
permit for prospecting for coal and uranium 86
placer and dredge mines 90
reclamation plan for a coal or uranium mine 82
use of explosives 74, 92
Mineral crushing 95
Mineral rights 8, 94
Montana Administrative Procedure Act 104, 159
Montana Antiquities Act 5
Montana Clean Air Act 28, 30, 37, 92
Montana Dam Safety Act 150
Montana Environmental Policy Act xvi, 29, 66, 105, 140, 162
Montana Hazardous Waste and Underground Storage Tank Act 123, 125
Montana Major Facility Siting Act 42, 44-46, 124
Montana Pesticides Act 19, 22
Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit 161
Montana Stream Protection Act 13
Montana Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act 41
Montana Subdivision and Platting Act 142
Montana Water Quality Act 92, 152, 155
Motor vehicle wrecking facilities 59, 127, 174
Motorboats 116, 117
Municipal revenue bonds 146

N-O

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit 163
Natural areas 8
Navigable waters 13, 25, 34, 150
Netting fish 74
Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act 76, 77
Nongame wildlife 76
Nuclear materials 40
Occupational noise 38-40, 200
Occupational Safety and Health Administration 38, 40, 200
Off-highway vehicles 119
Oil and Gas 9, 10, 109-114, 174, 178, 180, 184, 198, 200
drilling permits 110
oil and gas exploration 112
oil and gas leases 113, 180, 198
spacing of wells 111

Open burning 49, 50
Opencut Mining Act 96
Opencut sand and gravel operations 95
Organic Administration Act 19
Osprey 78
Outdoor advertising 56, 57
Outfitters 60, 66, 67, 171
Overhead lines 147, 193, 198

P

Package labeling 74
Paleontological remains 4, 5
Peregrine falcon 76, 78
Pesticides 19
    commercial applicators 19
    experimental-use permit 21
    farm applicators 19, 20
    pesticide dealers 19
Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund 134, 136
Pipelines 45, 147
Planning xvii, 7, 12, 13, 26, 34, 82, 105, 109, 140, 142, 143, 178, 193, 194
Planning board 7, 26, 143, 194
Ponds 2, 161
Portable sawmills 51, 180
Preferential right 18, 101, 115
Prevention of significant deterioration 31
Privies 132, 153, 174
Public comment 29, 31, 85, 106
Public Rangelands Improvement Act 19
Radiation control 40
Radioactive waste disposal 129
Radon 41
Raptors 61, 78
Refineries 24, 41
Refuse Act permit 161
Removal of dead or inferior timber 52
Roadside junkyards 59, 174, 181
Roadside zoos 65, 69, 172, 175

S

Sanitary and sewer districts 146
Seining 70, 74, 172

Seismic exploration 109, 112
Sewer systems 146, 148, 154, 174
Shooting preserves 71, 172
Slaughterhouses 47
SMES Cyanide Permit 90
Snare trapping 74, 172
Snowmobiles 120, 121, 172
Soil amendments 16, 17
Special improvement districts 146
Spotlighting 74
State fire codes 132
State parks 122
State Water Court 158
State-owned land 5, 9, 111, 113
Stream banks 2, 11, 35, 89
Stream beds 2, 11, 35, 89, 177
Streamside management zones 53
Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act 41, 79, 81, 85, 98, 123
Strip and Underground Mine Siting Act 79, 98
Subdivisions 118, 138, 140-144, 170, 174, 198
    evasion criteria 142
    minor subdivisions 140, 143
    interstate land sales 138
    long-range plan 42
    major subdivisions 140, 143
    sale of subdivided land 138, 171
    sales of land 11

T

Taylor Grazing Act 19
Temporary crushers 28
Timber cutting 50
Timber harvests 53
Timber sales 53, 180
Timber stand improvements 50
Trailer courts 117, 118, 174, 198
Transmission lines 13, 44, 147
Trapping licenses 72

U-V

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 14, 34, 41, 110, 111, 126, 200
Underground Injection Control Program 110, 200

Underground storage tanks 132, 135, 136, 174
Use of dogs for hunting 74
Use of fish as bait 74
Utilities 37, 42, 45, 139, 144, 145, 147-149, 179
Utility easements 59, 145
Utility lines 147
Ventilation Hotline 49

W-Z

Water pollution discharge permits 45, 89, 110
Water quality standards 14, 160-162
Water Rights and Appropriations
    beneficial uses 156, 157, 160
    ground water appropriation 155, 156
    highly appropriated basins 160
    water right transfer certificate 156
    watering livestock 157
Water supply systems 117, 152
Water well contractors 164
Water well driller 156
Water wells 153, 164, 179
Water/sewer districts 146
Weather modification 166-168, 179
Well log 156, 165
Wetlands 2, 11, 13, 15, 35, 89, 199
Wild bird permits 78, 172
Wildlife conservation license 68, 72
Work camps 117, 118
Zoning 1, 2, 26, 27, 95, 96, 128, 144, 198

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